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SEE **PAGES 20-21**



Passengers not chuffed as rail ticket prices soar

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO
anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

THOUSANDS of rail commuters could find themselves paying almost £6,000 for a season ticket between Milton Keynes and London after the latest Government price hike.

It was announced yesterday that the cost of travelling by train will go up by an average of 6.2 per cent and in some cases could rise by 11 per cent.

The increase will hit rail users' pockets from January and is pegged to July's retail price index (RPI) which saw inflation rise to 3.2 per cent from 2.8 per cent.

Currently an annual season ticket on some trains between Milton Keynes and the capital can fetch a whopping £5,280 but this may rise to £5,860 if rail firms opt for an 11 per cent increase on this fare.

Tickets are due to go up by three per cent above the RPI under a formula set by ministers and a similar increase is planned for January 2014.

Transport Consultant Alan Francis said: "I condemn the rise; it's not going

to be affordable. In Milton Keynes we have lots of people commuting. Between three and four thousand passengers commute to London every day and now we also have a lot of people commuting into Milton Keynes from places like Northampton and Bedford.

"People are going to have to fund this increase out of a wage that won't rise at all or will rise very little."

A system known as 'Flex' means that on top of the average increase train operators could push up fares on some routes by an additional five per cent as long as lower increases are introduced elsewhere.

Michael Roberts, chief executive of the Association of Train Operating Companies, said: "It has been government policy during the past eight years for passengers to pay a larger share of the cost of operating the railways and to focus taxpayers' money on investing in longer term improvements to the network.

"Any flexibility train companies have within the rules is to maximise revenue for the Government."

This latest rise means fares have gone up by more than inflation for ten successive years which means passengers in England experience some of the most expensive train journeys in Europe. Passengers will be told how prices will change on their specific route in the coming months.

Anand Ravel, 28, of Loughton said: "I think it's a joke and they can't justify it really because trains are normally late and overcrowded.

"I have decided to learn to drive because it will be a lot cheaper."

■ For more public opinion turn to page 2.

Karl gets up close to cup



DONS manager Karl Robinson had his eyes on the prize yesterday – the League One trophy.

The club's number one, speaking ahead of the league kick-off on

Saturday, said: "I've never got this close to it before.

"It's inspiring, it's motivational. It's something you can look at and think, hopefully it will be ours.

"But it's not ours to go anywhere near just yet."

For a full preview of the season see our 12-page supplement inside and sport.

How much passengers could pay with an 11 per cent fare increase?

Same day return ticket to Milton Keynes could cost;

- to London Euston: £40
- to Birmingham New Street Station: £66
- to Manchester Piccadilly: £120
- to Oxford: £123

Bletchley to Bedford would cost £13
*based on peak times from the trainline.com

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TRAIN REACTION:

How much passengers could pay with an 11 per cent fare increase?*

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 ■ to Oxford: £123

Same day return ticket from Milton Keynes could cost;

■ to London Euston: £40
 ■ to Birmingham New Street Station: £66

Bletchley to Bedford would cost £13

*based on peak times from the trainline.com

If passengers have to use the train, they will – but others will now drive their cars instead

AFTER it was revealed yesterday that train fares would shoot up by as much as 11 per cent we went to Central Milton Keynes train station to ask what you thought?



Faith Quickenden 23 (left), Southampton visits partner in Milton Keynes. "They are trying to encourage train use to keep omissions down but increasing it means more people turn to cars. "I don't drive because it's easier and cheaper but I might as well start driving and trains will be missing out."



Abraham Great, 34, (above) Fishermead "I don't often use the train I'd prefer to drive and this is exactly why. I'd usually drive as it is easier and at least I can sit down and listen to tapes or CDs."



Verishua Maddix, 20 (below) right, Galley Hill. "Using rail to commute to London for summer internship. It just means for me that in the future I will use other transport. I go to university in Luton, which I already use the bus service as is cheaper and more convenient. Having a railcard has helped when travelling to London but I don't often get a seat."



Carol Carter, 65, (left) Kingsmead I travel to London regularly to see my son, I am just about to buy a new railcard and even that has gone up by £3! The change won't put me off using the train, as I still need to see my son.

Tory MP - 'fares too high'; Labour MP - 'licensed racket'

POLITICAL figures in Milton Keynes have spoken out after the latest rise in rail fares.

Conservative MP Iain Stewart (right) is a member of Parliament's Transport Committee and he explained that the Government is reviewing the railway industry to make it more efficient and reduce costs.

He said: "I agree that rail fares are too high and as a member of Parliament's Transport Committee, I am closely involved in scrutinising these plans."

Mr Stewart added that Virgin Trains and London Midland are increasing their number



of carriages to provide extra standard seats. He believes this would help improve travellers comfort on their journeys and this would mean the price increase is more justified.



Andrew Pakes (above) Labour Parliamentary spokesman for Milton Keynes said the increase in ticket prices is 'nothing short of a licensed racket'.

He said: This is yet another eye-watering hike in prices at a time when many people are struggling to make ends meet."

"Ministers need to use their powers to help passengers and unless Ministers restore the cap on prices commuters will soon face the prospect of paying £5,000 for the privilege of travelling to work."

By January 2012 a Milton Keynes commuter who earns £25,000 could be paying around 20 per cent of their salary to travel to work as the season ticket cost may shoot up to £4,892.

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Driver dies after colliding with lamppost

A MOTORIST died after colliding with a lamppost on Monday night.

The 19-year-old man was driving a silver Seat Ibiza along Buckingham Road in Bletchley when the incident occurred at around 11.20pm on the east of the junction with Newton Road and Shenley Road.

He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Officers are investigating whether the incident is linked to a second separate collision, which is believed to have occurred shortly afterwards on the same road, near to the junction of Whaddon Way, involving a blue Vauxhall Corsa and a black Citroen Saxo. No-one was injured.

Sgt Jack Hawkins said: "A young man has sadly lost his life and our

thoughts are very much with his family at this difficult time.

"Our investigation is at a very early stage and we are making various enquiries to try and establish exactly what happened during each collision, so we do not feel it would be appropriate to speculate about the cause of either incident at this stage."

Anyone with information can call 101.

ADVICE: Former brothel owner Becky Adams



'I'm no hypocrite' says brothel mum

BY ADAM THOMPSON
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A FORMER brothel owner who said she'd teach her teenage daughter how to run a 'knocking shop' has defended her comments as she enters a new occupation as a career adviser for prostitutes.

Becky Adams, also known as Madam Becky, from West Bletchley, made international news when she said she'd teach her daughters Emilia, 17, and Abigail, 23, how to run a brothel.

She said she'd rather they went into the sex trade than banking 'because they'd have better ethics'.

Madam Becky received a fierce backlash from people for her original comments in a national newspaper but says she's not a hypocrite and would welcome her daughter entering such a business if she wanted.

The madam released her tell-all book 'Prostitutes, Punters and Puppets' earlier this year and says she has even begun giving career advice to those who want to go into the world's oldest profession.

She said: "I am not a hypocrite. I have employed thousands of women who have all been someone's daughter and loved them as much as I love mine. So if my daughters came to me and said

they wanted to run a brothel I wouldn't stop them.

"I would rather they went into the sex trade than into banking – for a start there are more ethics involved.

"I doubt Emilia would go into it anyway, she's not interested. She's seen the comments that have been aimed at me but despite the fierce words I've also received hundreds of marriage proposals.

"A lot of people say that the women involved are victims but there are large proportion do it through choice and it's these people I have begun giving career advice in the prostitution business."

River death ID

THE body of a man found in the River Great Ouse on Sunday has been named by a coroner.

Harold Bailey, 70, of Stony Stratford, was recovered from the river, with Thames Valley Police treating his death as unexplained but not suspicious.

Police was called just after 10.30am after a member of the public reported seeing a man's body in the water, off Calverton Road.

A post mortem has been completed but a spokeswoman from the Milton Keynes Coroner's office said they were still waiting for a toxicology test.

An inquest into Mr Bailey's death will be opened on Friday and adjourned.

Fire crew praise mum's reaction

FIREFIGHTERS praised a mother for her actions after she was alerted to a fire in her home by a smoke alarm.

Two crews from Great Holm Fire Station were called to the incident in Boycott Avenue, Oldbrook, at 9.17am on Thursday.

Crew manager Danny Moore said: "A toddler had managed to turn the cooker on, and a small fire started caused by food and cooking oil still in the oven.

"The mother explained that she

hadn't smelled or seen any sign of the smoke. The activation of a smoke detector was the only thing that alerted her to the danger.

"It enabled her to turn off the cooker and evacuate the property with the toddler and an older girl, with no injury to any of them.

"I praised her actions, as they reinforced one of our key safety messages to people in the event of a house fire – get out, stay out and call 999."

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Let's honour Greg in appropriate manner

SIR - Supporting the fantastic achievement of Olympian Greg Rutherford (*pictured right*) has to be a carefully judged priority.

Choosing Station Square to be renamed, would be to short change this achievement.

It is bland, isolated and looks like something from East Berlin even after a supposed make-over. How many of us would want to be known as a bus and train terminus?

Far better to name the area outside Marks & Spencer CMK after Craig Rutherford. It is central and accessible and could accommodate a replica gold medal.

As a resident of Stony Stratford I would be delighted to have him pictured with his Gold medal and the world record breaking knitted Union Flag that was created in the town. I wonder if he could jump the length of the flag? He could even switch on the town's famous Christmas lights.

The flag is available to any organisation, school and company in addition to our Olympic star. One wonders how many Craig Rutherford Gold medals it would need to cover the huge Union Flag?

Alderman Paul Bartlett
Stony Stratford



How many of these junctions now have bunches of flowers tied to lampposts etc or have permanent memorials, each representing a fatality – just as likely to be a motorist as a pedestrian or cyclist.

The sooner a 50mph speed limit is applied, the sooner this unnecessary carnage can be seriously reduced.

John West
Fullers Slade

Walk or ride on roads and you ask to be hit

SIR -Your front-page article claiming speed limits on grid roads should be cut are totally out of line.

The last paragraph stated 'There are going to be people killed because they're in the wrong place at the wrong time.'

I totally agree with the first part of that statement. Roads are for vehicles, pavements are for pedestrians and redways are for cyclists.

If pedestrians and cyclists insist on using the roads, they are entirely to blame if they are hit by vehicles. There's nothing wrong with the existing speed limits on our grid roads, which are part of what makes Milton Keynes great. It's just a pity some people are foolish enough to flaunt the system.

Education must be the answer. Drivers go through strict training before they can drive safely. Perhaps the same should apply to pedestrians and cyclists.

John Page
Sent by e-mail

No problem with the plan for a new Tesco

SIR-Just to say that as a resident of Woburn Sands I and other residents I have spoken to are not against Tesco opening a store in the town.

The argument that it would affect the Co-op is refuted by the example of Tesco and Co-Op happily trading alongside each other on Newton Road, Bletchley.

I feel that the council has not acted in the best interest of local people by opposing a Tesco store.

Ann Denton
Sent by e-mail

Reducing these speed limits would benefit all

SIR- Regarding the headline in your August 1 edition about reducing the speed limit on grid roads to 50mph, it is not just pedestrians and cyclists who need protecting, and not just in the hours of darkness.

A typical length of grid road between roundabouts has four junctions – two on each side.

It is ridiculous that the national speed limit (60mph) applies to such roads, with the amount of traffic they carry.

Transport this shows that nationwide there were 2,262 fatalities and injuries in 2011 on 20mph roads in built-up areas, 24 per cent more than in 2010 when 1,827 were recorded.

This compares to a one-per-cent reduction in casualties on 30mph roads in built-up areas.

The Portsmouth experience where a 20mph limit on built-up areas was introduced five years ago proved to be a failure, since the number killed or seriously injured in the city increased from 79 in 2007 to 143 last year.

The green councillors in West Bletchley Council should make note of this.

According to experts motorists do not concentrate and become frustrated in 20mph zones and pedestrians are drawn into a false sense of security.

The safety campaigners of 'safe speed' are calling for a halt to lower zones. A 20mph limit does not make the road safer and 30mph is absolutely adequate.

More councils are setting up 20mph areas under powers introduced by the present Government without proper research.

Another research project suggests speed humps have been shown to be a more effective road safety measure.

In fact humps cut accidents by 44 per cent at 149 black spots.

This is shown to be more effective when compared with 29 per cent for chicanes and just 22 per cent for speed cameras.

This research was carried out by the University of Liverpool's Civil Engineering Department and examined 79 speed camera sites, 39 roads with humps and 31 with chicanes.

West Bletchley councillors should think twice before introducing 20 mph limit in some parts of West Bletchley.

Arun Vaidyanathan
via email

Solution needed for car parking problem

SIR- As a regular user of shops in Queensway I have noticed several instances of shoppers who park cars for a few minutes to collect goods from Palmers butchers shop being harassed by traffic wardens who are looking for people to be booked.

The butchers shop is very popular and there are long queues especially on Fridays and Saturdays.

The nearest place where shoppers can park without being harassed is the library car park which is busy during peak times and people find it difficult to carry heavy items of groceries from Queensway shops.

The Saturday market opposite to old Co-op building is not fully utilised.

The best solution is to make that space into a general car park and provide adequate parking for disabled people and for shoppers near the butchers shop limited to one hour.

The town councillors should make note of the serious problem facing the shoppers in Queensway and find a practical solution for that.

Name and address supplied

MK Pride organisers are right to be proud

SIR- I would like you use your paper to congratulate everyone involved in making the first MK Pride last Saturday such a success.

It takes a huge amount of effort and dedication to organise any event, even more so since this was a first for the borough.

It was great to see so many people on the parade and enjoying the events on Campbell Park.

I particularly liked the dog show although I am disappointed not to have met Elvis the dog in person.

Despite progress on LGBT equality in recent years, there is still much to do to ensure an inclusive society.

MK Pride was a great advertisement for the kind of city we want to be, and that is something we should all celebrate.

Andrew Pakes
Labour and Co-operative parliamentary spokesman for Milton Keynes

Please say thank you to our good samaritans

SIR - Last Friday, August 10 we were involved in a car accident on the A421 at Tingewick, Buckingham.

Many people stopped to help us for which we were very grateful but we would like to pass on special thanks to the people who were the first to stop and help – a doctor who we believe rang the emergency services and two district nurses.

They all cared for us until the emergency services arrived and we didn't get a chance to thank you then.

We would also like to thank the paramedics, air ambulance doctors, the fire and rescue service and the police for everything they did to release us from the car and transport us into the care of staff at Milton Keynes Hospital.

We are both recovering now and just want to acknowledge the brilliant services they all provided.

Richard and Hilary Davies
Via email

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Cabbie cleared of rape tells of 'hell'

BY ADAM THOMPSON
editor@mk-news.co.uk

A TAXI driver cleared by a jury of raping a woman has spoken of his five months of 'hell' after he was banned from coming into Milton Keynes.

Omar Ahmed, 29, from the city, was found not guilty at Aylesbury Crown Court on Friday of attacking a 32-year-old woman in Linford Woods in March.

Mr Ahmed, who drove a taxi for 11 years, says he was prohibited from driving cabs, bailed 160 miles away in Halifax, Yorkshire, and not allowed back into the city as part of his bail conditions.

After being acquitted, the father-of-one thanked his parents for sticking by his side as word of his arrest spread to family in Pakistan and Hong Kong.

Speaking to MK NEWS the former cab driver said: "I knew I hadn't done anything wrong but when I was locked up I felt as if the world was against me.

"I live in a close Asian community and word got round about the arrest. People were asking my family about it and those closest to me knew I wasn't a type of person to carry out that crime.

"My parents stood by me – they knew I hadn't done anything.

"I fell into a depression after this whole thing started. I've not been able to work and now I want to clear my name.

"It has affected my relationship with my child as I was living so far away in Halifax at a family member's at the time because I needed a bail address.

"The last five months has been hell and these claims have shook

my world. I want it known out there that I didn't do anything and a jury has proved that.

"It took them half-an-hour to unanimously find me not guilty." Thames Valley Police, which pursued the case with the Crown Prosecution Service, released a statement saying: "The charging decision was jointly made by Thames Valley Police and the Thames and Chiltern Crown Prosecution Service, based on all the evidence collated as a result of the investigation.

"It was felt there was sufficient evidence to proceed and it was in the public interest to do so.

"The jury has listened to all the evidence put before them during the trial and has found Omar Ahmed not guilty of rape.

"We accept and respect the jury's decision."

Murderer loses appeal bid



A PARANOID killer who stabbed his friend to death in a violent outburst has been told by top judges he cannot complain about his sentence.

Suresh Nahar (pictured) inflicted nine wounds on 33-year-old David Law in a frenzied attack at the victim's home in Litchfield Down, Walnut Tree, Milton Keynes.

Nahar, 32, of Gurnards Avenue, Fishermead, was jailed for life and ordered to serve at least 20 years after being found guilty of murder at Luton Crown Court in March.

Earlier this month he challenged his minimum term at London's Criminal Appeal Court,

with his lawyers arguing it was too long.

But his appeal was dismissed by three of the country's most senior judges, who said the tariff was 'not excessive'.

But Mr Justice Beatson said the convicting judge was 'entitled' to reach the conclusion he did, and the sentence was 'not excessive' in the circumstances of the case.

Nahar denied murder, claiming he acted in self defence and suffered a 'loss of self control', but he was convicted by the jury.

His lawyers argued the trial judge didn't take enough account of the fact the offence was not premeditated.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Water Way Park plan renewed

PLANNING permission for the new Milton Keynes Water Way Park has been renewed for another five years.

The project is a key part of the proposed new waterway which will link the Grand Union Canal at Campbell Park to the River Great Ouse at Kempston, Bedford.

Drivers warned over car thieves

DRIVERS are urged to remain vigilant after cars were targeted by thieves over the weekend.

All four incidents took place in Gershwin Court, Browns Wood.

The incidents took place between 3pm on Saturday and 10am Sunday.

Thieves stole from a blue Peugeot 307, blue Saab 93 and a grey Ford Focus, and searched a black Audi A4.

Anyone with information can call 101.

Agora could face forced sale

THE Agora Centre in Wolverton could be subject to a Compulsory Purchase Order – but only 'if necessary'.

The proposal was put forward at an extraordinary meeting of Milton Keynes Council's decision-making cabinet last Tuesday as a result of pressure from Wolverton's Steering Group.

The owner of the Agora and the steering group will try to find a developer otherwise the council will step in.

Slash victim witness plea

A 43-YEAR-OLD man needed hospital treatment after being attacked by two men with a knife.

The victim was walking along Langcliffe Drive in Heelands between 9.30pm and 10.10pm on Thursday when he was assaulted.

The victim suffered minor slash wounds to his back.

The two attackers got into a small black hatchback at the junction of 50 to 64 Langcliffe Drive, opposite Ramsgill Court, and drove off.

The victim required treat-

ment at Milton Keynes General Hospital for his injuries.

Investigating officer PC James Punter said: "There are a number of residential properties in the area where the assault took place so I would appeal to anyone who witnessed or heard the incident, or who saw a vehicle matching the description in the area, to come forward."

If you can help, please call PC Punter at Milton Keynes police station via the 24-hour Police Enquiry Centre on 101.

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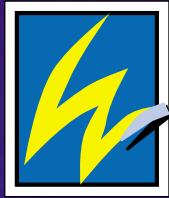
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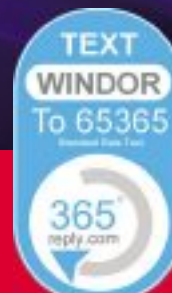
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Parking problems: Jacek Kopecky who has created ParkJam

Picture by Steve Lerner

Apps the way to do it for parking

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

A FRUSTRATED motorist has developed an Android app to help people find parking spaces.

Drivers can enjoy hassle free parking thanks to Open University (OU) research assistant Jacek Kopecky who developed the free application ParkJam after he got fed up with hunting down spaces.

He said: "I got frustrated trying to find spaces at the car park nearest to my work building.

"From the outside you can't really see if the car park is full so I have to drive inside to discover there are no spaces and then drive over

to the overspill car park, more frustrated, which is much further away."

The app – which can be downloaded from Googleplay – uses data from Open Street Map to locate car parks and motorists providing information on whether or not there are spaces.

This handy information is then relayed to an on-screen map on your Android phone.

The app has only been available for two weeks but is already proving to be a hit.

Mr Kopecky, who works in the Knowledge Media Institute, said: "I have shown it to the security

staff at the OU who oversee the car parks and they were quite interested in it.

"It's very easy for the security staff to update the data."

While work is a little quieter during summer months Mr Kopecky has had time to work on improving his creation.

He said: "I am working on a feature where people can provide more information on car parks for example closing times because Street Maps works on a volunteer basis like Wikipedia so it doesn't always have this information and then in return I can relay this information back."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Operation Darkle

OFFICERS from different agencies have visited shops in the city to ensure they operate in accordance with the law. Operation Darkle 2 involved officers from Thames Valley Police, Milton Keynes Trading Standards and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs who were all out to strengthen their links with the business community. During their visit, among other things, officers passed information to retailers regarding trading and tax legislation.

Det Con Wendy Cissell, from Milton Keynes police station, said: "The retailers are all very supportive of the operation."

Racial assault

A 47-YEAR-OLD black woman was the victim of a racially aggravated assault on Wednesday. She was walking along Windermere Drive in Water Eaton when two men approached her. One man grabbed her arm and the other punched her in the face. They later returned and used racist language.

Two men, aged 22 and 40, have been arrested and bailed until September 19. The woman was not injured.

Five due in court after man's death



Ian Church

FIVE people have been charged with murder after the death of a man from Milton Keynes.

Police were called at about 1.55am on May 5 to a disturbance outside a pub in Great Yarmouth.

Officers arrived on scene to find 40-year-old Mr Church with serious head injuries. He was taken to the James Paget Hospital where he sadly died several days later.

On Friday four men and a woman from Great Yarmouth appeared before Norwich Crown Court and were charged with murder. All five pleaded not guilty.

They will next appear at Crown Court on September 7.

A statement from Ian's family read: "Ian had moved to Great Yarmouth three years ago to be closer to his family and during that time had made lots of friends.

"Ian has left behind three daughters, two young sons and had just become a grandfather, leaving a much loved baby grandson.

"We cannot explain the pain and heartache that the family are going through. We will never forget Ian, he will live on in our hearts forever and we will love him always."

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Bid to challenge the perception of estate

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

CAMPAIGNERS hoping to improve the image of Fishermead have stepped up their efforts by building a new website.

The site, called I Love Fishermead, is the brainchild of Campbell Park Parish Councillor Nana Oguntola who thinks the reputation the estate has in some quarters is unfair.

Different Fishermead communities will be able to use the site to tell people what they are up to and residents can log on to find out what councillors are doing for them.

Cllr Oguntola (pictured) said: "Hopefully we can change the image and tell our own stories. We can tell people what Fishermead is really like rather than them telling us how bad they think it is.

"It's unfair that we are seen in the way that we are, you are not going to walk into Fishermead and get stabbed.

"I live here with my husband and kids. It is peaceful and quiet."

The website's home page states: "Fishermead is a wonderful community of long time residents, new arrivals and families.

"We have been defined by the people who do not live here for far to long, it's time to tell our

story our way and chart our own course."

It is not the first thing which has been done to try and improve the estate's tarnished reputation.

MK NEWS has previously reported on the creation of I Love

Fishermead stickers, as well as efforts to get residents to take pride in cleaning up their own streets as part of the 'Clean Fishermead' project.

You can visit the website at www.ilovefishermead.co.uk.

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Lions roaring off to Olympic location

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

THE city's basketball team are moving to the capital's Olympic Park and will be re-named London Lions.

British Basketball League bosses approved the relocation of the franchise last week, after owner Vince Macaulay's efforts to remain in the city drew a blank.

They will initially be based at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre before moving for the 2013/14 season to the 6,000 seat Copper Box, where Olympic handball has been held.

It means that the team will become a part of the London 2012 legacy but 14 years of history in the city have been brought to an end.

As first reported by MK NEWS, Lions were forced out of their Winterhill home to make way for a new retail development, and they could not find anywhere else to play in time for the new season.

This newspaper reported that Crystal Palace was a strong possibility and that has now come to fruition.

Mr Macaulay will return to manage and coach the side, with current Lions boss Mike New remaining in Milton Keynes to



Happier times: Vince Macaulay (left) and centre:mk director Robert Goodman when the Lions moved to Middleton Hall

continue his work with the MK College basketball programme.

The owner had previously described his attempts to find a new Milton Keynes base as 'the worst weeks of his life' but is now looking forward to what is undoubtedly an exciting venture.

He said: "We can't wait to get started.

"We have an incredible venue, and I feel we have all the building

blocks in place for a hugely successful community basketball club."

Lions previously played at Bletchley Leisure Centre and Middleton Hall before moving to Winterhill, and Milton Keynes now lacks a top-flight sports side.

A new look team will be assembled and Lions will have a local rivals thanks to the newly created East London Royals.

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£60k needed to save allotments

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

HISTORIC allotments are at risk of closure if vital funds to buy the land from the current owners cannot be raised.

Gypsy Lane Allotments in Aspley Guise were given to residents of the parish in 1845 by the How family which still owns the site.

But now the family wants to sell the land and plot owners have been served notice to quit the site as of April 6 next year unless they can raise the £60,000 needed to buy it.

Chair of the Gypsy Lane Allotment Society, Saran Andrews, said: "Members of the allotments provide plants for fundraisers such as the Aspley Guise Lower School summer fun day which raised funds for the new extension and we won't be able to do that anymore."

"We've applied for a number of lottery grants, one of which we've already been turned down for, but the problem is that they take a long time to process and the land has been put in the open market so somebody else could buy it in the time it takes to raise the money."

For the past four years Mrs Andrews has opened up her plot



Plea: Cash is need to keep allotments

to year one pupils to help them understand the 'Dig for Victory' campaign during the Second World War.

Sharon Smith, who owns half a plot at the allotment, said: "I'm devastated because I go quite a lot with my children. It's important for them to know where their food comes from."

The allotments are very popular with 25 members sharing 16 plots

and seven people on the waiting list.

One of the members has owned the same piece of land for 46 years and another took over his father's site who started growing crops there shortly after the Second World War.

Currently the society has raised £10,000. If you think you can help with their fundraising efforts call Mrs Andrews on 07745998055.

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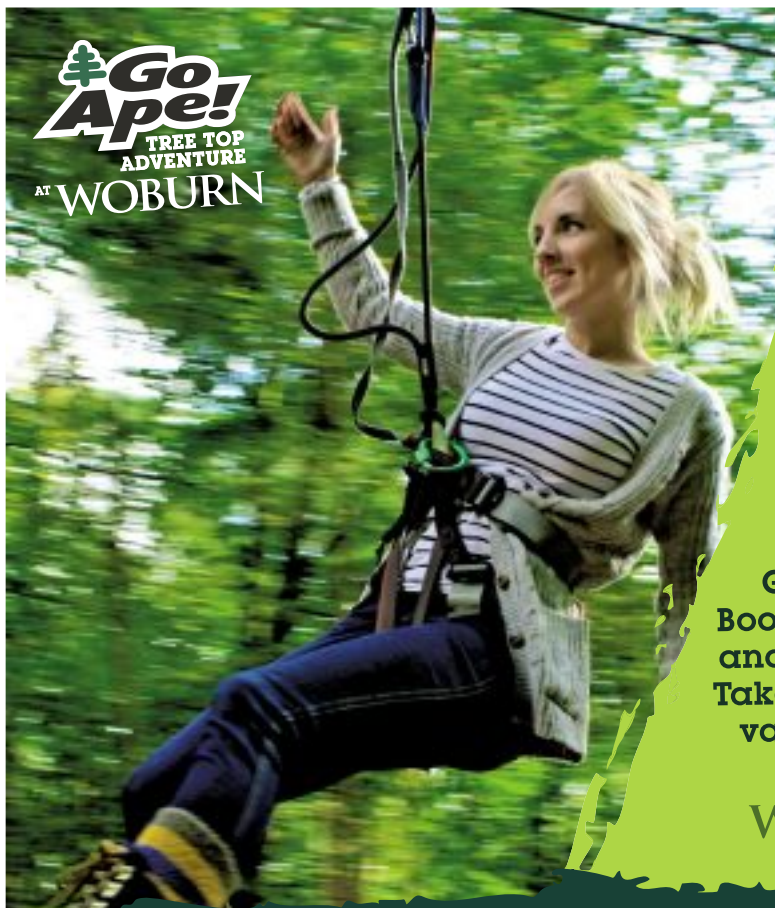
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Dons fan to cycle to all games for charity

BY ANNA MAUREM00T00

anna.maurem00t00@mk-news.co.uk

A DEDICATED Dons fan is stepping up a gear and cycling to as many away games as possible this season.

Adam Faiers, Secretary of the MK Dons Supporters Association, is getting on his bike in aid of the MK Dons Sports and Education Trust Disabled Football and the Redway School who are raising money to build a new playground.

Mr Faiers, 41, explained: "Before the Huddersfield game I said that if we won I'd cycle to the games for a charity of the club's choice and I'm being held to my word."

But far from regretting this pledge, which will see him cycle a gruelling 262 miles to Carlisle, Mr Faiers is looking forward to the challenge.

He said: "I'm really excited. Some of the games will be difficult but I'm going to break them up by doing challenges like beating the bus."

During the season Mr Faiers hopes that the blogs and updates will help to bring attention to the work that the MKDons Sports and Education Trust and the



Adam Faiers with MK Mayor Catriona Morris and his supporters

Redway School are doing for people with disabilities in and around Milton Keynes.

He said: "On Saturdays people will be able to follow my rides to the games and see me suffering a bit, but it is the day to day work of the SET and the Redway School which is really inspiring."

The epic challenge started on Saturday with a ride of 66 miles to

Cheltenham and will end with the last game of the season in Stevenage.

Initially Mr Faiers set a fundraising target of £1,000 but having already reached £200 he thinks he may have to rethink his goal.

To sponsor Mr Faiers visit www.justgiving.com/1000milesfortheSET

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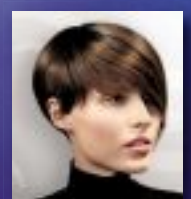
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Campaigners challenging the previous plan for 100 homes



Revised application set to reignite battle

DEVELOPERS who saw their application of 100 homes thrown out unanimously by Milton Keynes Council have come back with another proposal.

Storey Homes last year applied to build homes on land bordering Deethe Farm in Cranfield Road, Woburn Sands but it was rejected after the authority received 300 letters of objection.

But the firm has returned with a second application for 102 homes which is set to ignite another battle between the company and campaigners over the land.

Nick Luke, a Woburn Sands resident who spear-headed the last campaign, said: "Were this application to succeed it would set a precedent and open the floodgates to a

swathe of developments right across adjacent countryside which would have a devastating impact on our community."

Residents fear that allowing the homes to be built would impact the infrastructure with concerns about pressure on school places and Asplands Health Centre.

Another worry is that up to 500 extra movements a day from traffic would be expected on the roads - impacting the town centre.

Both Woburn Sands Parish and Town Councils are said to be firmly against the plans as is MP for Milton Keynes South Iain Stewart.

A spokesman on behalf of Mr Stewart said that the MP is fully backing residents on the proposal.

Leisure centre plan under fire

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

THE city is set to lose another leisure facility if a controversial planning application is given the go-ahead.

Residents in Great Holm are up in arms after discovering that Stratfield Park Leisure Centre in Gatecombe could be transformed into seven three-story residential properties.

Originally the centre was built for the use of 84 households in the area who are also stakeholders and stand to gain financially if the building is sold.

But other residents are fiercely opposed to the proposals which they believe would impact on nearby Lodge Lake.

Ray Harrison of Gatecombe said: "I think it's suspicious that this has been put through during the summer when people are on holiday."

"Lots of people use the lake, not just near by residents. The application would see all the mature trees removed and although they would be replaced they would be saplings."

Mr Harrison leafleted 500 houses around Great Holm and has received 65 responses as well as residents knocking on his door to express their concerns.

He said: "I was quite surprised about the level of responses, everybody is vehemently against the plans."

Loughton Parish Council, which serves Great Holm, has also opposed the plans.



Stratfield Park Leisure Centre

Chairman Peter Todd said: "The land is allocated to the community as a sports facility under the local plan and the applicants have never approached the parish council regarding the possibility of the parish running the facility to benefit all 2,500 residents rather than just the 84 households. There's no need for additional large family homes in the area, if there is to be a residential development I would like to see affordable homes."

The agent, Bidwells, has received approval from the Planning Authority to consider alternative uses including residential development.

Both Bidwells and the applicant, Broadland Developments were unavailable for comment.

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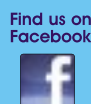
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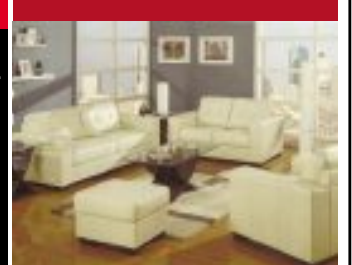
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Council Tax Benefit is Changing: Have Your Say



Council Tax Benefit is a benefit for people on a low or no income to help them pay their Council Tax.

Milton Keynes Council currently receives funding from the government to cover the cost of this benefit, but government has announced plans to abolish Council Tax Benefit. Instead, from April 2013, councils must manage their own local schemes on a reduced grant.

In Milton Keynes we estimate that the government's cut will reduce the income we collect through Council Tax by £3m, which represents a significant challenge.

Before decisions are taken about a local scheme, we are seeking feedback from local people.

You can find out more about the changes and what it may mean for you, and have your say in the consultation at <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/tax-benefit> or please pick up a consultation leaflet "Council Tax Benefit is Changing" from your local library.



Town council fights housing office loss

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

A TOWN council will fight to keep a 'valuable community asset' open.

The decision to close three council-run housing offices in Netherfield, West Bletchley and the Lakes Estate was made at the end of June.

The Lakes Estate housing office lies within Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council (BFSTC) parish area and it is fiercely opposed to the closure.

The council has written to Milton Keynes Council (MKC) stating its objection and is demanding to know what public consultation took place.

Alan Webb (pictured), ward councillor for the Lakes Estate, said: "This is a valuable community asset which the town council is strongly against closing down."

"We would like to take over the running while retaining a small number of council officers which was suggested to the council about 18 months ago."

The town council explained that it had not been consulted on this issue before the decision was made.

It believes it is wrong to close the



housing office which provides a valuable service to vulnerable members of society.

But, speaking at a cabinet meeting last month council member for housing, Peter Geary, said: "Housing offices are having less and less people coming through

the doors to raise issues. Housing officers do go out to people where they like to be seen, it's not just a matter of the housing office or nowhere else."

It is understood that councillor Reg Edwards has called in this decision.

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Delighted: Commuters celebrate the planning decision

Walkway plans are scrapped

COMMUTERS had reason to celebrate after plans to fill in the walkways at Station Square were withdrawn.

A planning application was submitted to Milton Keynes Council to build shops at Phoenix House, Station Square, which was met with disapproval by Central Milton Keynes Town Council Network Rail and a number of residents.

London Midland had also filed objections but withdrew them after receiving more information about the plans.

Top tips for photos

BY ANNA MAUREMOOTOO

kirsten.rawlins@mk-news.co.uk

THOSE looking to impress the Culture Festival's photography competition judging panel can benefit from some insider tips.

Antonio Longo, programme manager for creative and visual arts at Milton Keynes College, sits on the judging panel and he explained that winning photographers will demonstrate confidence.

He said: "I will be looking for well composed and technical sound images that fulfil the competition title by either photographing people, objects and to

capture the moment." There are two categories snappers can enter and the first - Diversity in Milton Keynes - asks them to demonstrate the broad culture of the city.

Mr Longo said: "I will be looking for confident photographers who can compose images and make positive connections with people's culture, beliefs and their backgrounds."

"This could be done by photographing different cultures doing one thing together or the result of a collaboration between people and what they do in the community."

The second involves taking pho-

tos of the event at Campbell Park on August 25-26 and uploading them on to computers at the festival.

One winner will be chosen from the 14-18 category and another from the 18 plus group and both will snap up a top of the range camera.

On top of this the winners and nine-runners up will have their work displayed in MK gallery before the exhibition tours venues around the city.

There is also a photography course up for grabs and a week's work experience at the MK NEWS. For more information visit www.mkiac.org.

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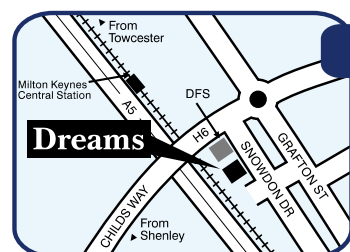
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Naomi's night at close of Olympics

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

THE eyes of the world were on one talented Milton Keynes dancer this Sunday as she performed in the Olympics closing ceremony.

Naomi Huggins, 20, of Far Holme, in Middleton, was brimming with pride when she took to centre stage after making it through two rounds of gruelling auditions to dazzle audiences in 'A Symphony of British Music'.

She was one of 15,000 performers who took part in the greatest after party in the world which was watched by an estimated audience of four billion.

She said: "I was rehearsing all the time so it became part of my every day life but when you stand back and take in what it actually means to be part of the Olympics it's amazing."

She added: "I can't describe what it felt like, all I could see was lights. It was amazing."

Naomi is currently studying dance at Buckinghamshire New University and between rehearsals she took time to watch some of the Olympic events.

She said: "I particularly enjoyed the gymnastics because it's closest to what I want to do and they're just brilliant."

Directed by Kim Gavin the Closing Ceremony celebrated the achievements of competitors at the games, and included a handover to Rio where the next event will be held in 2016.

Paula Diamond, Diamond School Principal where Naomi trained, said: "I'm extremely proud of Naomi being in the Olympics closing ceremony - not just for this but for all she has achieved so quickly."

"She's an extremely passionate, hard working youngsters and truly deserves all her successes."



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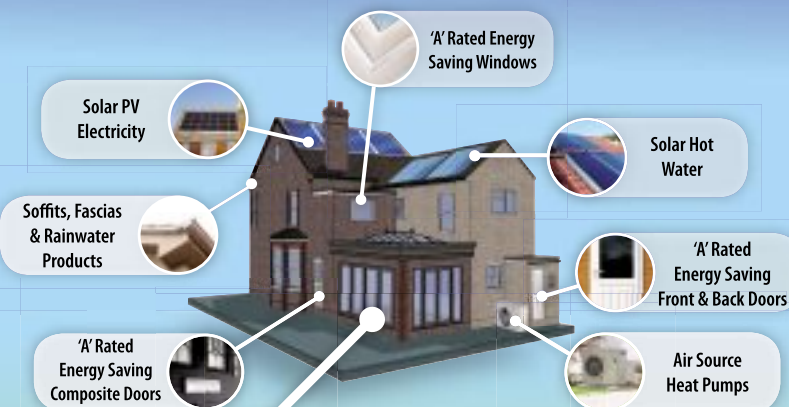
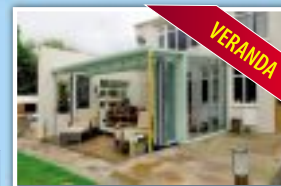
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Plea for help: Members of the All Nations Community Choir need your support for a new single

Calling all musicians

BY ANNA MAUREMOTOO

anna.mauremootoo@mk-news.co.uk

TALENTED musicians are being sought to help a community choir produce a charity single.

All Nations Community Choir (ANCC), based in Central Milton Keynes, is recording the single *I am Healed* to raise funds for Help for Heroes which will be released at the end of September.

To make the most of the city's talent the choir is auditioning anybody that can sing, rap, dance, beat box, snap, clap, whistle, play an instrument or DJ on

September 8 at Acorn House in Midsummer Boulevard.

Joseph Benneh, the director of ANCC, said: "Everybody that has been hurt needs some healing so this song is not just for the injured soldiers - it is also about anybody that has suffered or went through some rough times and needed help."

"ANCC is a community organization so we encourage everybody to participate in this project."

This vibrant choir celebrates different cultures worldwide by incorporating all aspects of performing arts.

It aims to break down the barriers of segregation by

bringing people from different parts of the world under the same roof to show off their skills.

The Help for Heroes project hopes to promote performing arts as a therapeutic form as well as providing support for Help for Heroes in their work to rehabilitate injured soldiers and their families.

As well as the single the choir will be recording a music video and a documentary called 'The Real Heroes' which will be aired on Channel 4 on Remembrance Day.

To register for an audition visit <http://ancmck.webs.com/contactus.htm>.

The wait is finally over

SHERLOCK Holmes fans will finally get to enjoy a gripping crime-thriller 12 years after it was written.

Teresa Collard (pictured), 88, of Bolbeck Park, originally wrote 'Baskerville Inheritance' by hand but it did not make it to print because her publisher died.

The book - which is based on the stories of Sherlock Holmes - has now made it to print with the help of her grandchildren who helped to edit it and design the cover.

The story will launch at Milton Keynes Central Library on September 1 where Ms Collard will be signing copies between 11am and 1pm.

She said: "I am really looking forward to it but I am losing my sight so when looking at people I will need to go close to their face which may look like I am going in for a kiss."



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Park activities are simply child's play

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

NEW research has revealed that some traditional childhood activities are at 'risk of extinction' in Milton Keynes.

A survey carried out by supermarket giant Morrisons concluded that 49 per cent of parents couldn't teach their children to play jacks and that 40 per cent didn't know about French skipping.

More than 61 per cent of parents asked, wanted their children to have a similar childhood to them but 25 per cent said they wouldn't be confident about telling kids the rules of blind man's bluff.

The research has come during the summer holidays when the amount people spend on their offspring soars, so the reemergence of such activities could help people in the pocket too.

Morrisons set up a 'pop up' play park in Westcroft on Thursday and Friday last week to try and address the issue with the help of charity Play England, and parents and children from the city could try out the activities absolutely free.

Emma Jones, from Loughton, said that her daughter Becca, nine, enjoyed the experience.



Fun in the sun: Kids on space hoppers at the play park in Milton Keynes

She said: "Becca had a great time and it was free. You usually think that entertaining your children will break the bank. Things like the cinema are really expensive."

Sonia Whiteley-Guest, Director of Brand Development at Morrisons, added: "With two children of my own I am constantly looking for fun but low-cost solutions to keep the boredom at bay."

"Our wider report into summer spending highlighted that parents expect to be in the red as a result of the school holidays, with the average parent predicted to end up £126.95 in debt over the course of the holiday."

"Eight per cent will accrue a debt of between £250 and £500. "Entertaining children with these games and the ones we all remember from our childhoods needn't cost a penny."



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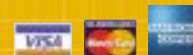
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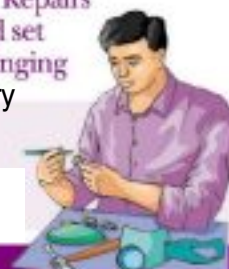
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Party spirit at Pride parade

BY JESSICA DUNCAN

editor@mk-news.co.uk

HUNDREDS took to the streets of Milton Keynes for **Celebr8mk** and **MKPride** which joined together for the first time this year.

Approximately 400 people met at Campbell Park to march through central Milton Keynes in celebration of the city's diversity.

Wendy Greig chairman of **Celebr8mk** said: "Everything on the day went very smoothly, there was a real happy party buzz."

"This atmosphere spilled over all onlookers and we definitely arrived back at Campbell park with more than we left with."

Gavin Anderson leader of **Celebr8** parade was thrilled with the support from the **LGBTIQ** community.

He said: "It has been an evolution as this community has always been a part of our event but now have their own identity and platform to continue to work together and separately."

Gavin has ambitions for the future of **Celebr8mk** to hold a weekend of all the events that are at the moment held separately such as children's play-day and the cycling.

He added: "The smaller communities would become more recognised and it would be fantastic to fill Campbell Park."

The parade - an annual event which started in 2008 - was open to everyone including business, charity, community or individual.

MKPride's director Jo Green said: "It was a massive success - our expectations were reached as we were supported by the community in and outside of Milton Keynes."

"It was an emotional experience as volunteers were so supportive and really understood what this meant to the community."



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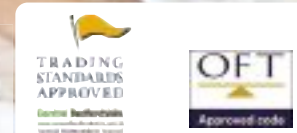
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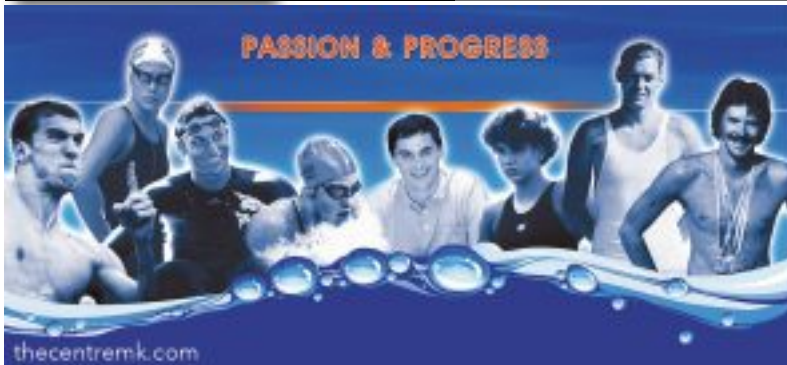
Stiletto headphones at the ready – it's Paloma

UP-AND-COMING super star Paloma Faith will be adorning her stiletto headphones and taking over the decks at Wonderworld. Joining the resident DJ, Jamie C, Paloma will play in the Tomorrow room on Friday. She is a brilliant DJ who dons her custom made stiletto

headphones and plays a music from the 40s all the way through to 90s RnB and throws in a couple of commercial anthems to boot - she knows how to work the crowd. A singer, actress, showgirl and DJ, her fanbase is eclectic and the charismatic Paloma Faith is cutting edge on both the stage and the DJ scene. The inexorable rise

of Paloma Faith has been an unstoppable force of 2009 with her debut album Do You Want The Truth Or Something Beautiful charting at number nine. Tickets are available online now at www.discoverwonderworld.com and start at £6 and the party goes on until 4.30am.

Leisure or events news? e-mail editor@mk-news.co.uk | phone 01908 689595



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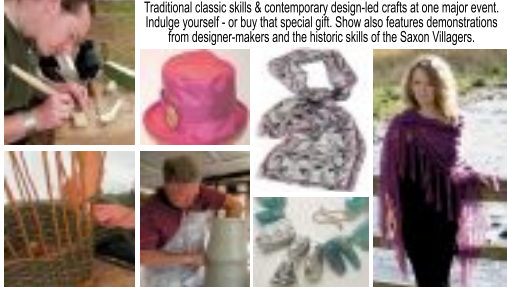
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Adults £6. Senior Citizens £5. Accompanied children under 14 yrs free.

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Saturday 1 September, 8pm
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MKlife

Family life
Out and about

familyfun

FROSTS Garden Centre at Woburn Sands has launched a new home grown competition for children across Milton Keynes to grow and showcase their own harvest at its annual autumn festival.

The produce will be entered by October 21, ready for viewing and judging by the general public a week later, with the winner receiving a wheelbarrow full of goodies.

Anyone interested should e-mail info@perception-pr.co.uk.

ROLL up, roll up! Join The Parks Trust rangers on Tuesday and learn some circus skills.

Booking is essential for their circus skills classes, taking place between 10am-noon and 1-3pm in Campbell Park. £3 per child, suitable for ages six to 12.

Book online at www.theparkstrust.com or call 01908 233600.



ENJOY workshops in vocals, drama, dance, music, art and media delivered at the Spectrum Arts MK summer school.

The four days of professional coaching takes place between

August 21 and 24 at The Ridgeway Centre. Classes are held from 9am - 5.30pm.

£100 per student - sibling and early bird discounts available. Visit www.spectrum-arts-mk.co.uk.



Traintalk

JOIN the Silver Foxes as they hold their Model Railway Exhibition.

The club will be displaying 20 working layouts at the Webber Independent School in Stantonbury Fields on Saturday, including Z, N, OO and O gauge.

There will be talks and demonstrations, as well as trader stands with a range of products.

Open from 10am until 4.30pm, adults £4, senior citizens £3, children £2.50.

VETERANS from a range of conflicts, from the Second World

War through to recent operations in Afghanistan, will be chatting about their extraordinary experiences on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, August 23, at Imperial War Museum Duxford.

Between 11am and 1pm in AirSpace, hear about the diverse range of experiences they underwent during very different conflicts and how those events made a lasting impact on their lives.

TAKE a walk with the RSPB alongside Willen Lake on Sunday

from 10am, with the possibility of early migrations. Free, park in the Peace Pagoda car park on V10 Brickhill Street.

THE National Trust at Stowe is looking for helpers over the August Bank Holiday weekend to volunteer in the beautiful gardens and surroundings.

As a thank you, anyone who is able to offer a few hours over the weekend will be given a free voucher to visit the gardens on another day.

Call 01280 817156 or e-mail stowe@nationaltrust.org.uk.

MKlife

Columnist

Competition

CHEF James Perry returns to MK LIFE this week to bring a recipe to go with last month's jams and compote delights. Here's his recipe for the perfect partner for this.



LAST month I spoke about jams and compote and the perfect accompaniment for me is bread. Pain Perdu is the original egg bread but sweet.

Pain Perdu:

500g strong white flour
15g fresh yeast (if dried use 10g)
60g butter
40g caster sugar
10g salt
2 large eggs 250g milk

Method: Add flour to a large mixing bowl - then using your finger tips crumble the yeast and butter and add the salt and caster sugar.

Beat the eggs and milk, add to the mixture and mix until you have a sticky dough. Turn the dough onto an unfloured work.

Lift the dough towards you so that you stretch it and then fold it back over itself. Do this until it becomes loose from the work

surface. Keeping hold of the dough slap the bottom half down on the surface.

Keep working the dough until it is springy - add a little flour to the work surface and place the dough on top - smooth side down.

Pull the dough into a small square and pull the corners into the centre and hold them in place with your finger, keep going round until you have almost a ball then turn the dough over and stretch the dough underneath with the edge of your hand to shape the ball and create a strong exterior.

Flour your mixing bowl and place the ball of dough inside, cover with cling film and leave until it has doubled in size. Lightly flour your work surface and gently tip out the dough.

Cut the dough in half and put one half aside. Grease the inside of two standard sized loaf tins and

flour them.

With the dough in front of you gently pull it out into a rough square. Starting with the end furthest from you fold that end into the centre and push together with the back of your thumb.

Turn the dough around and fold the other edge into the centre and push together and then repeat.

Repeat the folding process with the other piece of dough, cover with a clean tea towel and leave for one hour.

Egg wash the tops with a mixture of one egg yolk and two tablespoons of cream. Quickly make a cut along the top with a wet knife.

Place into a pre heated oven at 230°C for 20 minutes.

For recipes for the accompanying macerated summer fruits orange Chantilly and custard visit www.mk-news.co.uk.



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12-hour antibacterial protection, therefore fighting the cause of most common dental problems, bacteria. Now available in 75ml, 125ml and 175ml family value size packs; what's more Colgate Total 75ml is now on special offer at Morrisons stores until August 27 where it's two for £3 and

every reader can pick up an extra saving by logging on to www.mk-news.co.uk and downloading the £1 off voucher.

Plus we are offering one lucky reader an even better deal on groceries at Morrisons with our competition to win £200 of Morrisons vouchers, courtesy of Colgate Total.

Just answer this question to be in with a chance of winning. Which of these is the most common cause of dental problems? a) Sweets b) Bacteria c) Orange Juice.

Send your answer, together with your name, address and daytime telephone number, to competitions@mk-news.co.uk or MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU.

Entries must be received by Wednesday, August 22. The winner will be notified. The editor's decision is final.

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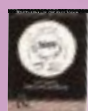
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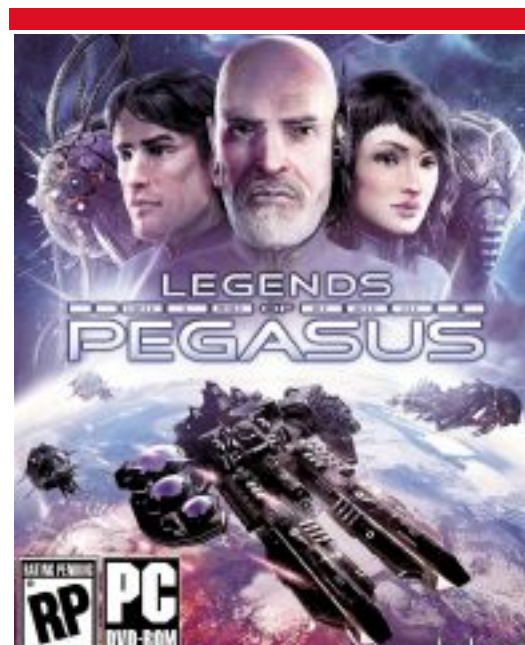
LEGENDS of Pegasus is released on PC this week but don't expect to be controlling the famous mythical winged horse.

The game is in fact an 'empire building' set in space and players can pick one of three races to control, humans, the X'or or the Anthrox.

Each of these groups has their own traits and characteristics and as you explore the far flung depths of space, it's up to you to become allies or enemies with the various species you encounter.

It's a living and breathing universe in which you can play alone or together with your friends and science-fiction buffs are sure to love it.

The aim of the humans is to recreate a lost empire of years gone by but where is the fun in that? It's much more satisfying to play as the aliens.



livemusic

THERE'S live music from Kim Myhr at MK Gallery tomorrow.

Described as one 'one of the most interesting guitarists in the improvised music world' he is an active voice on the Norwegian creative music scene, with regular performances across Europe, Australia, Asia and America.

Although composition is a valued activity for Myhr, his main focus remains improvisation and long-term collaborations.

It gets under way from 7pm and is completely free.



Powerfulbunch

ACTION fans must have thought that all their Christmases had come at once when the cast list of the original Expendables was released, as it read like a who's who of famous macho actors.

Anyone who enjoyed that explosive and chaotic movie about a group of mercenaries can now rejoice again as

a sequel has just hit the cinemas, originally entitled The Expendables 2. Luckily the cast list is still jam packed with famous names, with Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham, Jet Li, Dolph Lundgren, Chuck Norris, Randy Couture, Terry Crews, Liam Hemsworth, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Bruce Willis, and Arnold Schwarzenegger all featuring. All of that lot would draw in the crowds being in films on their own but together they pack a truly pow-

erful punch. The trouble is that sometimes too many cooks spoil the broth and with so many stars on the screen it can be difficult to keep track or grow attached to one particular character.

For some, however, this won't matter one bit as stunts, mayhem and things blowing up are all they would want to see.

If that's you then this will be right up your alley.
3/5



comicclassic

THE Pantaloon's theatre company is bringing its fast-paced, physical and fantastically funny production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* to Woburn Abbey on Saturday.

Oscar Wilde's classic comedy of manners is one of the best-loved plays ever written. The wonderfully witty lines are just as funny today as they were when the play was first performed in 1895.

Tickets are from £9-£13.50, from 01525 290333. Show starts at 7pm.

got an exciting event?
email adam.grinsell@mk-news.co.uk
see our online gig guide
www.mk-news.co.uk

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MKlifeHOTPICKS

screenalfresco



parklife

HAVE Fun in the Park with the family on Saturday at Medbourne Sports Pavilion.

It's free admission to enjoy the funfair, bouncy castle, face painting, hair brading, a car boot sale, pampering sessions, a tombola and lots of stalls, between noon-5pm.

There are also entertainers, dancers, singers, games and lots more.



fennyfun

SUNDAY marks this year's annual Fenny Poppers Festival.

The fun starts at 11am on Aylesbury Street with the beginning of a diverse range of music as Steelasophical steel band take to the stage. The firing of the famous Poppers is a 2pm, and the day finishes at 6pm. There is also lots of stalls and food to enjoy.

TAKE your popcorn outside to enjoy the free annual Open Air Film Festival in Campbell Park.

Following the success of the first Drive In last year its back with Pixar's family friendly *Cars* at 3pm on Friday, followed by *The Italian Job* at 7pm.

On Saturday enjoy an action-packed with *The Incredibles* at 1pm, followed by *Goonies* and *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*, while on Sunday from 1pm there is *Wallace and Gromit and Curse of the Were-Rabbit*, *Mary Poppins* and *The King's Speech*. FOLLOWING the success of last year's first ever Drive In The Parks Trust present Pixar's family friendly *Cars* at 3pm on Friday.

art'n'music



THE MK Paint Jam is hitting InterAction MK in Peartree Bridge on Saturday and Sunday.

Check out the music on three stages - acoustic, DJs and the main stage - as well as the cream of artists from in and around the city. Search MK Paint Jam on Facebook.

Open/Advisory Days



Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th August, 2012
10am - 4pm

Stay calm, sit tight, it's going to be fine. If your results go better than expected or not quite to plan, don't panic. Come and see us.

Our Open/Advisory Days will give you the best possible professional advice and guidance to get you on the right course for you. Whether you need to discuss your options or find out more about what we offer, our friendly staff will be on hand to talk you through the next steps.



Location: Chaffron Way Campus, Leadenhall, MK6 5LP

Please note that the two events will take the same format, so you don't need to attend both days.

For more information, visit: www.mkcollege.ac.uk or call **01908 684452/53**

Springers DanceStudio

In partnership with the Jill Foster Dance Centre we are delighted to launch in September 2012 Springers dance classes in our fantastic new dance studio....

Dance classes starting in September 2012

First class is free then followed by £23.00 per month paid in advance by standing order. Email enquires@mkspringers.com to pre-book your child's place...

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Super Stars (Stardance 6 to 10 years);

A combination class developing the finer points of Street/Freestyle, Ballroom and Latin American.

Times

Thursday 5.00-6.00

Dynamic FUSION (Freestyle/Street: 10 years to adult)

Up to date routines to the latest chart hits for all ages and abilities. Come and be trained by ex-dance champions!

Times

Saturday 1.00-2.00

StarLight Ballet & Modern

A combination of ballet and modern following starlight grading.

Times

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Tuesdays 5.00-6.00 Level 2 (Age 6 plus)

Wednesday 4.15-5.00 Level 1 (Age 3/6 years)

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Springers Fitness Classes

FREE Launch Weekend 18th – 19th of August,

Venue: 17 Carters Lane, Kiln Farm MK11 3ER

New fitness classes for Adults in our new dance studio at Kiln farm...

Each day we will be having 2 taster sessions:

Times 10am -12:30pm & 1pm - 3:30pm

Within each taster session you will have the opportunity to try 15 minute blocks of the different fitness classes that will be running.

Booking for the free sessions must be made in advance and online at www.mkspringers.com. Places will be limited so **BOOK NOW** to avoid disappointment.

Full time table of classes will be available online after launch weekend, with Springers fitness offering advance booking and online payment making working out a simple pleasure.



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We'd like you to meet Dominic, he's five years old.

Dominic is happy living with his foster mummy – they've known each other since he was three years old. They play football together, and like most little boys, Dominic loves scoring goals. He's a keen reader too, loving to explore the world of books.

But Dominic knows he can't stay with his foster mummy forever and that he'll have to build a new life with someone new who will care for him until he's a grown up. We'd like that someone to be you. Together we'll encourage Dominic to continue his love of everything new and help him make the most of his childhood. He's bright, learns really quickly and has a lot of love to give.

Adoption will change your life too, as well as being fun, rewarding and motivating, being an adoptive parent means you'll have the biggest impact on Dominic's life – ever. We'll help you all the way, providing support, guidance and allowances if you need it.

To adopt Dominic, you can be a single male or female, part of a couple or already have children. We are looking for people living outside of the Islington area. We welcome your experience of life.

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DISTRAUGHT Dons players were already thinking about another crack at promotion to the Championship just moments after last year's campaign ended in anguish.

The dream died at the Galpharm Stadium last year as an excellent performance and a 2-1 victory was not enough to overturn a 2-0 first leg win for the Terriers at stadiummk.

It was that first leg performance which ended up costing Dons dearly, as well as, arguably, the home defeat to Walsall on the final day of the season which saw Karl Robinson's side sacrifice fourth place and home advantage in the second leg in the process.

With Robinson's reputation as an up and coming young manager at an all time high, and clubs at a higher level seemingly being linked with his services on a regular basis, the manager's future was far from clear after the Huddersfield defeat. The players knew that they wanted the boss to stay though and immediately collared Robinson to find out his thoughts.

"On the coach after Huddersfield, one or two players came and pulled me aside and asked me where my future was lying, Robinson said. 'I said, 'listen, that's something we'll discuss' and they said 'come on gaffer let's have one more year. Let's all stick together and have one more year.'

"Right away it was done. I said I needed to speak to the chairman to make sure we can keep them all, and when I knew we could I was never going to go anywhere else."

Robinson was determined to keep the squad who came so close to Championship football last term, and in doing so Dons are in the rare position of not having lost any players over the summer.

Ryan Lowe, defender Antony Kay and right back Jon Ostemobor have been added, as well as the now permanent capture of Alan Smith, but nobody has departed and for Robinson that consistency was crucial.

"The crucial thing was that nobody left," he said.

"There's tremendous camaraderie from the staff to the players, the fans to the boardroom. There's togetherness.

"Let's hope we can have some silverware walking around this pitch in April. That will be the perfect answer for keeping all our players."

Robinson has been left purring at his reinforced squad,' be taking out and replaced with 'Robinson has been left purring at his reinforced squad and believes his men are more than ready for the task in front of them.

He said: "We have a goal machine in Ryan Lowe, Smithy's experience and Jon Ostemobor is regarded as one of the best right backs at this level.

"I want to be the best we can possibly be. I'm not saying win, win, win, it's do your best. And I think we all know that if we do our best, we've got enough people who can compete in this league. You can never question the players' attitude.

Hopefully we'll make another signing before the season starts, maybe two more,' be removed and can 'That will give us tremendous strength in depth' be changed to 'we have great strength in depth'.



"I want to be the best we can, possibly be"



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PETE Winkelman has watched MK Dons suffer play-off heartbreak for two straight seasons and is determined that it won't happen again.

The club's chairman has set out his stall and said that it has to be automatic promotion this year, with the team set to be under more pressure than ever before to finally achieve Championship football. Mr Winkelman has vowed to back manager Karl Robinson with an increased transfer kitty if required but this tactic comes with a huge element of risk.

If Dons are not successful, the finances may have to be reeled back in during the following season which means the squad is likely to lose some key players.

It really is all or nothing and Mr Winkelman knows it. He said: "We were very disappointed that we weren't even able to get to Wembley. It's the third year in four of being the bridesmaid and that's not where we want to be. This club needs Championship football and that absolutely has to be the aim."

The added pressure on the players is something that is very new at stadiummk, where a relaxed attitude is usually the order of the day. Mr Winkelman, however, believes that the team being assembled are more than capable of rising to the challenge.

"It's something we're having a little experiment with," he said.

"I've never wanted to load pressure on the team. I've done everything I can over the year to absorb that pressure. "But our team can respond well to it. When we set them the tasks of beating Sheffield United they did it, they beat Huddersfield away." With regards to the extra money being spent, the chairman believes that now the time is right.

Great advances are being made off the pitch thanks to the upgrade of stadiummk and the expansion of the site as a whole, and now the team needs to make the next step too. With the league arguably easier on paper and season ticket sales up, Mr Winkelman believes it is time to strike while the iron is hot. He said: "It's about signals. We can't sit in League One to stay in League One. We have to be going for it.

"With the manager we have, and the best squad, it's sensible to give him the most resource I can.

"I've learnt to trust Karl and his judgement. He takes his budget seriously and respects the money that he spends. He's not just a good coach or motivator, he can manage his department. He's starting to come of age.

"A lot of contracts are coming to an end at the end of this year. I'm definitely loading more pressure on the team than ever before, and I'm hoping they can respond.

"At times we have been truly the best team in the division."

"It's something we're having a little experiment with"



Pete Winkelman



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FILLING John Gorman's shoes was always going to be a tough ask for Mick Harford but Karl Robinson's new number two can't wait to get stuck into the task in front of him.

Harford replaces the retiring Gorman as assistant manager and the former Luton boss has thoroughly enjoyed the pre-season after an impatient few weeks waiting to get started. He said: "I was asked to come and join the club at the end of last season and it's been a long summer for me waiting for the new season to begin."

"I've been working for the FA and scouting for the Great Britain Olympic team and I always knew what was going on in football. "But I did miss the day to day business, the training and just being in and around a football club. I'm really grateful for the opportunity to come back and work with Karl and I'm looking forward to the challenge ahead."

Harford, who made two appearances for England, has already been impressed by Robinson's management. "We have the same philosophy in football," he said. "We have the same ethos, we want to play the same way. "We want to play attractive football with quick passing

where we keep the ball on the ground. "He's very switched on and very tactically aware. He's got a good eye for a player which I think is massive.

"That's a big part of management, spotting and identifying talent and putting them into your structure. I've thoroughly enjoyed working with him.

"He's got the players fully committed and fully switched on tactically about how he wants them to play and he installs a strong disciplinary code here which is adhered to by all of us." From time to time the manager and assistant are likely to see things differently but Harford accepts that this is all part of the job.

He's also confident of mounting a strong push for Championship football in the coming season.

He said: "I'm sure throughout the season we'll have, not arguments, but discussions and differences of opinion, all in a positive way. "Whatever he decides to do I'll always back him up.

"I don't think our budget is massive compared to other clubs in the league but I believe in terms of quality and strength on the field. We are definitely in the top three or four teams. We didn't lose many players and added to the squad. "Hopefully we can go one step further this season."



"He's got the players fully committed"



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FOOTBALL legend Ian Wright has rekindled his love of football by joining the Dons coaching staff.

The Arsenal goals hero is now part of Karl Robinson's backroom team on a part-time basis and he is relishing being a part of the beautiful game once more after years of media and television commitments following the end of his playing career.

Last week Wright was part of the start of season Dons team photo – the first time he has been in the traditional club snap since he played for West Ham in 1998. It's things like that which make him wish that he returned to the training ground a lot sooner. He said: "It makes you realise how much you miss it."

"I had a different agent who was really pushing me towards television instead of football. "If I look back at it now and how much I'm enjoying being around the guys, I think it was a mistake. "There's nothing, apart from a couple of things in the latter stages of my television career, that I would have preferred to do instead of football."

"I wouldn't say it's been a waste of time. But I've come into the coaching side of it late and I wish I'd started a bit earlier really."

The new coach spent some time at the club last season after being put in touch with Robinson and believes that helping Dons in their promotion quest will be a rewarding experience. "I

missed the daily banter of being around a football club, but I've got that back now," he said. "If you can do anything when you pass something on and success comes from it, well I think it will be just as fulfilling as when you are playing. "I don't think anything will replace playing, but being able to pass stuff on and have players saying 'Wrighty's input really helped', well that's what you want. "You just want to be able to have your worth, and what you contribute, does contribute."

Wright bagged more than 300 goals in his career, winning every domestic trophy as well as the European Cup Winner's Cup.

He will be at Dons three times a week but will miss Saturday games because of a contractual commitment to a radio show.

That won't stop him sharing his views though and he has identified areas where he believes he can help, especially with the club's strikers.

"Passing into the forwards and decisions the midfield make when forwards are making runs are the sort of things which naturally stick out to me," he said.

"I also try and drum it into them to hit the target. Sometimes players rush, you have to be composed around the box. It's the calm players who generally score. "The great thing about Karl is that he listens to everything, then he takes what he needs. That's what it's about."

"There's a lot of ambitions and a lot of players who have a lot to prove."

"With the right kind of focus we can do very well this season."



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MKNEWS

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GOALKEEPERS

1. David Martin
Now entering his third full season Martin has been a regular between the sticks and has made the jersey his own.

16. Ian McLoughlin
The Irish U21 stopper will be hoping to put pressure on Martin this season.

DEFENDERS

2. Jon Otsemobor
Newly signed right-back who Karl Robinson hopes will solve the club's problems of finding a regular in this position last time out.

3. Dean Lewington
The skipper and longest serving player, Lewie bleeds MK Dons and will be desperate to finally secure promotion to the Championship.

4. Mathias Kouo-Doumbe
French defender who can play at right-back or centrally, struggled with injuries but can be an integral part of the back four.

5. Gary Mackenzie
No nonsense Scottish centre back who is needed to perform as the rock at the back.

12. Adam Chicksen
Young full-back who is starting to make strides in the first team and has a big season ahead.

24. Antony Kay
Strong defender/midfielder signed from Huddersfield this summer.

15. Tom Flanagan
Centre back who is mature beyond his years and has a big future. On loan at Gillingham for first five months.

MIDFIELDERS

6. Shaun Williams
The Irishman had an excellent first season at the club, whether in midfield or defence, and is a key part of Robinson's side.

7. Stephen Gleeson
Signed on at Dons again after being linked with a move away, one of the key engines in the middle of the park.

8. Darren Potter
The club's player of the year after a superb first year at the club. Pulls the strings in the middle and is a vital member of the squad.

17. Dan Powell
Lively and quick winger who has progressed through the club's academy. A part of the furniture mostly used from the bench last year.

18. George Baldock
Brother of Dons hero Sam. Currently on the fringes of the squad but will hope to make an impact.

23. Jay O'Shea
Winger who struggled for games at the start of the season but took an opportunity with both hands in the second half of the campaign. Became a valuable asset.

26. Luke Chadwick
Popular former Manchester United midfielder who still has plenty to offer at this level.

STRIKERS

9. Dean Bowditch
A reliable source of goals whether from the wing or in the lone striker's role. Fifteen strikes in debut season.

10. Charlie MacDonald
Described as the club's 'poacher' Charlie signed to replace Sam Baldock and bagged 11 goals in his first year at the club.

11. Alan Smith
Former England man made a shock loan switch from Newcastle last year and is now a permanent Don. Expected to move from midfield into a more attacking role.

14. Ryan Lowe
New signing from Sheffield Wednesday who previously banged them in for Bury. Robinson will hope he becomes a clinical threat.

19. Jabo Ibehre
Cult hero among the Dons faithful, a strong forward who adds something different to the front line.

20. Charlie Collins
Fringe striker who will want to make an impression.

25. Jordan Ivey-Ward
Academy graduate given a chance in the first-team set-up.

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18 Oldham H
21 Bournemouth A
25 Swindon A

SEPTEMBER

1 Carlisle H
8 Walsall A
15 Yeovil H
18 Notts County H
22 Bury A
29 Crewe H

OCTOBER

2 Coventry A
6 Portsmouth H
14 Preston A
20 Stevenage H
23 Crawley A
27 Scunthorpe A

NOVEMBER

6 Leyton Orient H
10 Sheff Utd H
17 Tranmere A
20 Shrewsbury A
24 Colchester H

DECEMBER

8 Brentford A
15 Hartlepool H
22 Doncaster A
26 Walsall H
29 Coventry H

JANUARY

1 Notts County A
5 Yeovil A
12 Bury H
19 Crewe A
26 Doncaster H

FEBRUARY

2 Bournemouth H
9 Oldham A
16 Swindon H
23 Carlisle A
26 Portsmouth A

MARCH

2 Preston H
9 Sheff Utd A
12 Shrewsbury H
16 Tranmere H
23 Colchester A
29 Hartlepool A

APRIL

1 Brentford H
6 Crawley H
13 Leyton Orient A
20 Scunthorpe H
27 Stevenage A

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ALAN Smith would rank gaining promotion with MK Dons along side his Premier League success with Manchester United.

The former England man has no qualms about playing in English football's third tier and said that for him, the most recent triumph is the most important.

Smith has a Premier League winners medal from 2006/7 and also won the Championship with Newcastle but he would not see League One glory as any less of an achievement. When asked where helping Dons to the title would place, he said: "It would be as important, if not more important than anything else."

"The next thing you do is the most important thing. To be successful here would be as rewarding as winning the league at Man United and winning the league at Newcastle. It would be the next one. In your career you always have to strive to improve and to do as much as you can."

Many were shocked when Smith made his initial loan switch to MK Dons from Newcastle in January, and although he said at the time that he was plotting a longer stay few thought that a player of his calibre would pen a permanent deal. That is what has happened though and Smith is not bothered by the surprise and discussion his drop down the leagues has generated.

He said: "I don't really care to be honest. I've played in the

Premier League, Championship and League One and I don't think there's a lot of difference in terms of ability between a lot of players.

"I think the standard of football would surprise a lot of people. The players we have here should be at a higher level. A lot of them have had the chance to go and play for a Championship team but they've stayed loyal to this club. It will be just rewards for them if they can get promoted."

Smith had a number of offers on the table when he was released from his Newcastle contract at the end of the season, but MK Dons was always his preferred destination.

"It's an exciting place to be, and a very enjoyable football club to be at," he said. "Since I came here last year I had it in my mind that I'd like to stay if it were possible."

"To come to a place like this, with the players and staff, and the way the club wants to go, it was an ideal time to come here." Last season's play-off defeat to Huddersfield took place just months into Smith's loan but he was already connected with the club enough for the result to hurt.

This season could see him play more up front after continued spells in midfield, and he'd also like to begin his journey into coaching.

He said: "Striker is my most natural position, that's where I used to play when I came through at Leeds and where I feel most comfortable."

"But in a season when we are going to have 46 games crammed into a small period of time, everyone will have to play in different positions."

"It's a roller coaster ride but once everyone gets on board, it's away we go and we'll see what happens."



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Dean Lewington



THE opening weekend of a Dons league season just wouldn't be the same without the involvement of Dean Lewington.

A club stalwart and the longest serving player, Lewie is preparing for another campaign at the helm as the stadiummk skipper and he couldn't be more proud about wearing the armband.

"It's an honour to wear it," he said. "The years keep rolling on really and I'm very proud about it."

"I try to build on it and improve."

"Hopefully each year I have it I get better, and learn from the years previously."

Lewington has experienced all of the highs and lows in the club's history and will want to end the MK play-off hoodoo and gain promotion to the Championship more than most.

Some players have the pain of one or two failed promotion attempts to spur them on, but Lewington has four and could be forgiven for wondering when his promotion party will come. This time around though he thinks the squad is looking in ideal shape to finally make the step up to the Championship, after

many players turned down opportunities to leave.

He said: "I think it's probably the best group of players that we've had, we've got some fantastic players."

"We're very fortunate that the boys decided to stick with it and go again as this team. It's a bit light numbers wise compared to other squads we've had in the past, but you'd rather have quality instead of quantity."

The captain is expecting another tough season in League One, despite some claiming that the division will be easier on paper thanks to the promotions of Charlton, Sheffield Wednesday and Huddersfield.

Dons are one of the bookies' tips to do well but Lewington believes that there will be many teams hoping to mount a challenge.

"Maybe the names are gone but there are teams in there who are spending equally as much money, such as Bournemouth and Brentford," he said.

"I think the league will be just as tough as it always is. There will be more teams at the same level, maybe six or eight of us in the same sort of area."

A good start in the league is what everyone hopes for but for Lewington it is not vital that Dons win when Oldham visit on Saturday for the League One opener.

He said: "It's not the end of the world, but you do want to get those first points on the board."

"It's always an exciting time of the year. Every footballer is pleased to get the pre-season over and done with. Nothing replicates the real cut and thrust of league football."



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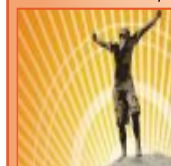
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NEW Dons hot-shot Ryan Lowe knew all about his new manager before he put pen to paper for Dons – as he'd played against him.

The club's summer signing came up against Karl Robinson in a local game in Liverpool but will now be hoping to impress him to win a place in the side.

Much time has passed since that match and Lowe will be playing for a man who he clearly has a lot of respect for. "I played against him in non league, it was Sunday football," Lowe said.

"His coaching and philosophy in football is second to none. I wanted to come and work with him, play football and fight for my place."

Lowe, who has been brought in from Sheffield Wednesday, jumped at the chance when it emerged that first team chances with the Owls were not going to be regular.

In moving to MK he is dropping down a division as Wednesday marched into the Championship last season by claiming an automatic promotion spot. Dons are now hoping to make the very same journey and Lowe is eager to get started.

He said: "I left a great club and a big club in Sheffield Wednesday, and I wasn't just going to go to any club. "There was quite a bit of interest, but you only have to look

around this place and see the way that the team have progressed over the past two years under the gaffer.

"It was an easy decision to come to a stadium like this and to a club like this who are on the up.

"I didn't want to sit there and pick up my money. You get players who will just sit around and pick up their wages. I didn't want to do that, I've never wanted to do that.

"There's nothing better than going to a team who play good football and create lots of chances."

The 33-year-old scored nine goals in 13 starts for Wednesday after previously being prolific for Bury, and Dons fans will be hoping that they have bagged a scoring machine.

He hopes that the experience of two previous promotions in his career will hold him in good stead and relishes the competition the numerous attacking options in Robinson's squad will bring. "All you want is competition," he said. "If you are doing well you get in the team, if not you have to wait your turn.

"I'm confident every game I go into, I'm confident I'll get a chance or two, gets some goals and hopefully create some goals. I have my targets, I never really tell anyone them but the first one is obviously to go up with this club."

"All you want is competition"



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HERE'S no getting away from it, Dons are now one of the big hitters in League One.

The bookies have installed Karl Robinson's side as the second favourites for the title and as a result the boys from stadiummk have a big target on their back. Here we have a look at some of the other sides who will be hoping to challenge come April.

SHEFFIELD UNITED

The Blades were agonisingly close to promotion but fell just short after a marathon penalty shoot-out in the play-off final against Huddersfield.

A club who will feel that they are too big for this league, the title will certainly be the aim and a big clear out has already taken place to help them achieve their aim. There was double anguish for the club's supporters as bitter rivals Sheffield Wednesday did make it up as a blip in form late on ultimately cost them.

Installed as the bookies' favourites.

PRESTON NORTH END

Preston had a disappointing season last time out but manager Graham Westley is now looking ahead to his first full campaign at

the helm.

Westley has made a number of changes over the summer as he looks to fashion the team in his mould and they are expected to be there or thereabouts. Expect the team to play in a similar way to Westley's Stevenage, in an extremely direct manner.

COVENTRY CITY

One of the teams relegated from the Championship last season, the Sky Blues may find life initially tough in League One following the inevitable departures caused by dropping down a league. Big names have left but Karl Robinson is still wary of their threat, particularly from the club's youth academy which will become more of a focus.

Some talented youngsters could be the impetus Coventry need to begin their push back up the divisions.

SWINDON TOWN

The League Two champions had an excellent campaign last time out and many have tipped them to take that form into the new season.

Managed by Paulo Di Canio, the Robins have sound financial backing and will be looking up again rather than at the drop. Dons travel to the Wiltshire club for the third game of the season in what looks likely to be an early season test of their credentials.



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Woburn Sands

THIS is a spacious detached bungalow situated on a good size plot with mature gardens backing on to Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands Golf Course.

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open plan split level lounge/dining room with wood flooring, family room, conservatory, fitted kitchen/breakfast room, four bedrooms, en-suite shower room, family bathroom, sealed unit double glazed windows, sin-

gle garage, brick office, driveway, wooden garden summerhouse and wooden cabin.

The property, on the market for £645,000, is within a short walk of shops, public houses and restaurants and Bedford Estate wood-

land is only a ten-minute walk away.

Full colour details can be found on www.beasley-partners.co.uk

For any enquiries or viewings, please contact the office on 01908 282820.

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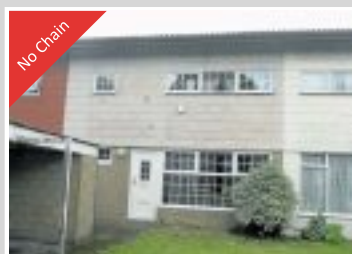
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HIGH SPECIFICATION HOME £265,000

- Spacious/versatile 4 bedroom home
- 20' Kitchen/breakfast room
- 15' Family room with double doors to garden
- Separate formal lounge
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VILLAGE LOCATION! £229,950

- 3 Bedroom semi detached new home
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- Versatile and open plan downstairs
- 17' Master suite with en-suite and double shower
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SIMILAR PLOTS AVAILABLE!! £249,950

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- Detached 5 bedroom executive home
- Spacious lounge with fireplace
- Large fitted kitchen with a modern island
- Separate dining room, study & utility room
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SPACIOUS 2 BED APARTMENT £153,500

- 2 Double bedroom modern apartment
- Open plan kitchen/living area
- En-suite to master bedroom
- Situated on the east of MK
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VERSATILE FAMILY HOME £279,995

- Elegant 4 bedroom family home
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TOP FLOOR MASTER SUITE £256,500

- 4 Bedroom terraced new home
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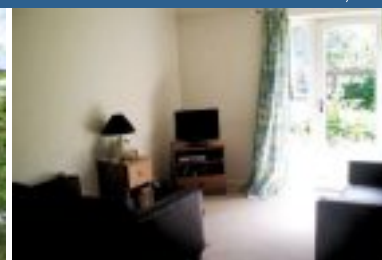


- Three Bedroom Detached House
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- Kitchen and Family Bathroom

- Double Garage
- Cloakroom
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Vendor to Pay 2% Stamp Duty

PUBLIC NOTICE

£109,950



Wilson Peacock are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £112,500 for 208G North Row, Milton Keynes, MK9 3LQ.

Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Wilson Peacock on 01908 606951 before exchange of contracts.

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£80,000



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Dakota House

£75,000



- One Bedroom Apartment
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- No Chain

Brook End

£375,000



- Detached Family Home
- Five Bedrooms
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- Off Road Parking and Rear Garden

Tabard Gardens

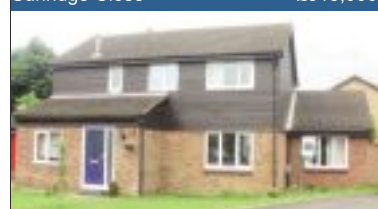
£335,000



- Executive Detached House
- Lounge, Dining Room and Conservatory
- Kitchen, Breakfast Room and Utility Room
- Four Bedrooms and Modern Bathroom
- Double Garage and Gardens to Front and Rear

Sunridge Close

£315,000



- Four Bedroom Detached House
- Lounge, Family Room and Study
- Refitted Kitchen, Dining Room and Utility Area
- Fitted Family Bathroom and Cloakroom
- Garage, Driveway and Gardens to Front and Rear

Queens Avenue

£200,000



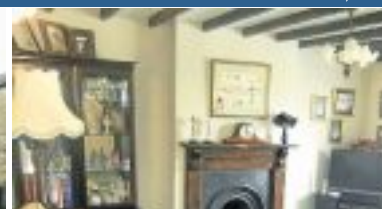
- Three Bedroom House
- Lounge, Dining Room and Kitchen
- Outhouse WC and Utility
- Family Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces

Lavendon

£450,000



- Four Bedroom Detached Stone Cottage
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- Dining Room and Family Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room



- Family Bathroom and En-Suite WC
- 'Orchard' Style Garden
- Gated Off Road Parking
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Harrod

£275,000



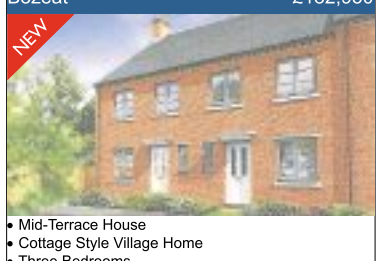
- Semi-Detached Property
- 2% Stamp Duty Paid
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- Approx 2000 Square ft



- Five Bedrooms
- Open Fields to the Rear
- No Upper Chain
- Call Olney on 01234 711481

Bozeat

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- Mid-Terrace House
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- South Facing Garden
- Call Olney on 01234 711481

Olney

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HUSBOURNE CRAWLEY £730pcm



A two bedroom mid terrace house with brick outhouse and off road parking. Unfurnished. Available 17/10. Minimum 12 month contract.

RIDGMONT £1,000pcm



A three bedroom semi detached house with two reception rooms, garage and gardens. Unfurnished. Available 05/10. Min 12 month contract.

WOBURN £730pcm



A two bedroom terrace property with kitchen, lounge/diner, bathroom and gardens. Close to facilities. Unfurnished. Available 16/10.

WOBURN £1,667pcm



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You will be technically and practically minded and able to adapt to working in situations from the use of heavy equipment to the calibration and development of sensitive electronic measuring systems.

You should be able to demonstrate initiative, have a strong sense of self-motivation and be comfortable working in a team environment. Suitable training will be provided.

For an informal discussion about the role please contact Ian Hakon (Technical Manufacturing and Facilities Manager) T: on 01234 750111 ext 8297 or E: i.hakon@cranfield.ac.uk

Apply online now at www.cranfield.ac.uk/hr or contact us for further details on E: hr@cranfield.ac.uk or T: +44 (0)1234 750111 ext 2343. For any enquiries, please quote reference number 1263.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 24 August 2012

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Are you tenacious, outgoing, enthusiastic and have the drive to succeed?

If so, we could have the job for you at MK News. Due to our success and continued investment, we have the following vacancy:

FIELD SALES MEDIA CONSULTANT (DISPLAY, MOTORS & PROPERTY)

LSN MEDIA publish award winning and market leading local newspapers in Beds, Bucks & Northants. Within our portfolio we also have rapidly growing websites and a number of successful magazines and niche products. We have gained a reputation for delivering quality, hard hitting news and advertising solutions that provide results for our valued customers.

We are looking for a highly motivated individual to maintain an already established customer base by setting effective & exciting campaigns, as well as gaining new business through canvassing and cold calling.

Whilst advertising sales experience isn't necessary, you will need to be presentable, persuasive and confident at communicating on the telephone and face to face at both MD and grass roots level. Strong administration skills and organisation are vital as well as a keen eye for detail.

We offer a salary of up to £16,000 per annum (dependant on experience) with genuine and realistic opportunities for further career advancement as well as:

- Generous bonus structure to earn up to £18 - £20k
- 25 days holiday per year
- Regular training
- Company car - Mini Cooper
- Contributory pension and healthcare after qualifying period

If you have that 'certain something' to join our friendly team, please contact Marie Baker at marie.baker@mk-news.co.uk, who will be happy to send out an application / information pack.

Closing date for applications is 17 August

LSN Media is part of the Iliffe News and Media Group.

It is the company's policy to employ the best qualified personnel and provide equal opportunity for the advancement of employees including promotion and training and not discriminate against any person because of sex, race, pregnancy, disability, marital or family status, age, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or trade union memberships.



LSNmedia MKNEWS

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MKWeb is Milton Keynes market leading website and is the choice of both residents of and visitors to Milton Keynes. Our Sales Team offer a spectrum of advertising

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Senior Digital Field Sales Executive

Full Time | Up to £23,000 basic salary + bonus

We are looking for a highly motivated, energetic, results-orientated salesperson that excels at bringing in new business by building relationships with new and existing customers. Skilled in all facets of the sales cycle including prospecting and negotiating, you will be offering creative advertising solutions and packages across our website.

You will need to be presentable, persuasive, and confident at communicating face to face and on the telephone at both management and grass roots level. Our salespeople need to identify and develop a strong understanding of client's objectives and challenges in order to develop winning selling strategies and proposals.

This position would suit someone with previous sales experience looking to step up to the next level as well as into the fastest growing advertising medium in

2012 and beyond!

An interest and appreciation of digital media would be beneficial. You will also need to be focused on delivering high standards of customer service and building customer rapport through canvassing and cold calling. The successful applicant should also hold a full, valid driving licence.

We pride ourselves on recruiting and developing the best people and offer a competitive basic salary of up to £23,000 plus realistic bonus structure. We also offer 25 days holiday per year, regular training, great potential for further career development, contributory pension and healthcare after a qualifying period.

**Sounds like you?
Don't hesitate - get in touch!**

To request an application form along with job description and person specification, please email Gemma Dunne, Digital Manager: gemma.dunne@lsnmedia.co.uk or call 01908 242490.

It is the company's policy to welcome applications from any individual regardless of ethnic origin, gender, disability, religious, belief, sexual orientation or age. All applications will be considered on merit.

As a member of Iliffe Digital Media we also produce award winning websites across Herts, Beds, Bucks, Cambs, Essex, the Channel Islands and the Midlands

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Salary: £35k pro rata

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Anticipated start date: October Negotiable

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- Provide an effective financial management service to the charity
- Act as the leading interface between management and trustees on financial matters.

Application deadline: Please submit application by - Friday 31/8/2012 - 12pm

Interview date: Commencing - September 17th

Contact: James Kidd, Carers in Bedfordshire Suite K, Sandland Court, Pilgrim Centre, Brickhill Drive, Bedford MK41 7PZ

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Closing date: 7th September 2012.

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The role will be varied and will involve tasks such as audio typing of reports and correspondence, setting up and maintaining client files, mail shots, formatting documents, photocopying, franking, filing and ad-hoc duties as required. You will be proficient with Microsoft Office with good working knowledge of Word and Excel, have excellent written and verbal communication skills and have a minimum typing speed of 50 words per minute. Minimum 25 hours per week to be agreed.

Please submit CV with covering letter and details of current salary to Kathy Hewitt, Practice Manager, DLP Consulting Group Ltd, 4 Abbey Court, Fraser Road,

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Closing date: Closing date: 24 August 2012.

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Closing Date: Midday on Friday 24 August 2012

Interviews: To be arranged in September 2012

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Closing date for applications:
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For an informal discussion please contact Cathie Gibbons on 0300 300 4875.

● LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT (CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE)

£17,161 - £19,126 pa (Quote ref: 3093)

Full time, 37 hours per week

Fixed-term until end of March 2014

Responsible for the recording and administration of online and manual course bookings for both Central Bedfordshire Council children's social care staff and external agencies; training and learning provider liaison, course promotion and preparation, and the administration of various training budgets. The role also involves maintaining the training database and supporting the compilation of management information reports and statistical returns.

For an informal discussion please contact Ray Halford on 0300 300 5885.

To apply, please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/jobs

Closing date for both posts: 27 August 2012.

Interview date for both posts: 14 September 2012.

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Posts working with either children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

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For informal enquiries please contact Kellie Evans on 01908 252413.

Interview date: 18 September 2012.

Social Worker (Autism)

£25,472 - £33,661 - 37 hours per week Ref: 50018789

Supporting changes to services in response to the Autism Act, you will complete assessments, arrange services, and support individuals and families. An excellent communicator with a consistent and creative approach, you will have a social work qualification and registration together with experience of working with adults with autistic spectrum conditions.

This post is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Mark Hutton on 01908 253159.

Closing date for all posts: 2 September 2012.

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GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE
Scott Groome trading as Long Marsh Ltd of Heron House, The Embankment, Wellingborough, NN8 1LD is applying for a licence to use Long Marsh Ltd, Elstow Road, Bedford, MK42 9LE as an operating centre for 5 goods vehicles and 0 trailers and to use Long Marsh Ltd, Bradbourne Drive, Tilbrook, Milton Keynes, MK7 8AT as an operating centre for 5 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

Milton Keynes Council

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning, Economy and Development Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73
12/01144/FUL Installation of 1 x BT DSLAM telecommunications equipment cabinet (retrospective) at Telecommunications Box, Opposite 4 Church Street, Stony Stratford
12/01357/FUL Repair and rendering of boundary wall at Friends Meeting House, Hardwick Road, Woburn Sands
12/01387/FUL Retention of ventilation and fume extraction system (retrospective) at 18 The Square, Wolverton
12/01457/FUL Erection of a single storey rear and side extension at 3 Knights Close, Olney
12/01571/FUL Change of use from restaurant (A3 use) to one dwelling (C3 use) (resubmission of 11/02305/FUL) 17A High Street, Olney
12/01593/FUL Erection of octagonal shaped greenhouse at Warren Farm Cottages, 1 Watling Street, Little Brickhill
SECTION 67
12/01521/FUL Erection of a detached dwelling at The Old Swan, 8 Main Road, Astwood
12/01546/FUL Demolition of existing single storey rear extension, erection of two storey rear extension, change the use from restaurant (use class A3) to business/office use (use class B1) and insertion of new windows at 15 Warren Yard, Wolverton
12/01547/LBC Listed Building Consent for the demolition of existing single storey rear extension, erection of two storey rear extension, change the use from restaurant (use class A3) to business/office use (use class B1) and insertion of new windows at 15 Warren Yard, Wolverton Mill
12/01555/LBC Listed building consent for replacement windows and patio doors at Chimney Cottage, 5 Crow Lane, Wavendon

DEPARTURE FROM LOCAL PLAN
12/01095/FUL Erection of a freestanding two storey restaurant with associated drive thru, landscaping, car parking and patio area at Former Little Chef, Galley Lane, Little Brickhill

Nick Fenwick, Assistant Director Planning, Economy and Development

APPLICATION TO LICENCE PREMISES FOR CIVIL CEREMONIES

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the following application has been received for a Licence for the use of premises listed below for civil ceremonies.

A copy of the application and covering plans will be available for inspection at The Register Office Bracknell House Aylesbury Street Blechley Milton Keynes on weekdays between 9.30am and 4.30pm from Monday 20 August 2012 until Friday 7 September 2012.

Anyone wishing to object to this application should write to the Proper Officer for Registration Civic Offices 1 Saxon Gate East Central Milton Keynes stating their objections by Monday 10 September 2012.

Karen Ford, Proper Officer for Registration

Name and Address of Applicant
Hilton Milton Keynes, Timbald Drive, Kents Hill Park, Milton Keynes MK7 6HL

Rooms to be licensed
Cranford Suite, Meeting Rooms 1 and 2

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (WOLVERTON ROAD (PART), MILTON KEYNES) (40 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2012

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES (WOLVERTON ROAD (PART), MILTON KEYNES) (50 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make the above named Orders under section 84(1), (2) and (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (the Act). The proposed Orders will affect all classes of vehicle and their effects will be as follows: to impose 40 MPH and 50 MPH speed limits on the following lengths of Wolverton Road, Milton Keynes:-

- Wolverton Road, Oakridge Park – 40 MPH speed limit on:-
 - that part which extends from a point approximately 140 metres north-east of its junction with Selkirk Drive, Oakridge Park, (the south-west junction) and the V7 Saxon Street for a distance of approximately 794 metres in a north-easterly direction; and
- Wolverton Road, Redhouse Park – 40 MPH speed limit on:-
 - that part which extends from a point approximately 50 metres south-west of its junction with the Giffard Park Roundabout and the V10 Brickhill Street for a distance of approximately 710 metres in a south-westerly direction.
- Wolverton Road, Great Linford – 50 MPH speed limit on:-
 - that part which extends from a point approximately 760 metres south-west of its junction with the Giffard Park Roundabout and the V10 Brickhill Street for a distance of approximately 680 metres in a south-westerly direction.

A copy of each of the proposed Orders, the Council's statement of reasons for proposing the Orders and maps showing the lengths of road referred to may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes, MK9 3HG.

Any objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be made in writing and sent to the undersigned to be received no later than 5th September 2012 quoting reference WULP&E/005710PSCO/1980

Philip McCourt, Assistant Director – Law & Governance, Civic Offices, Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes MK9 3HG.

15th August 2012

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

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ANNE new to the area, loves travel, cinema, theatre, seeking sane happy male to share social, fun, romantic and loving times together. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388977
HI I'm Jo, petite, pretty, fed up with own company, seeking male to help me get back into the swing of things, for uncomplicated fun times together. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 387103

TINA fit single tall slim blonde female 27, loyal, sincere, looking for friendship hopefully leading to LTR. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388107
CHARLIE young 37yr old blonde attractive nurse, OHAC, no ties, new to the area and dating scene, looking to find love with genuine available male, 25-42 with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 387051

DONNA 24yr old single nurse, curvy, pretty, brown hair, big eyes, single and fun to be with, WLTm mature male for romance 25-45yrs. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 391117
DEBBIE slim outgoing approachable attractive lassie, 33yrs, GSOH, sporty, looking for non serious fun male for friendship, maybe more. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 387101

GEM 24, slim blonde with blue eyes, single mum of one, broadminded and extremely easygoing, WLTm genuine male for LTR. Dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 385369
JULIE blonde blue eyed outgoing female, 31yrs, seeking laidback relationship with likeminded affectionate male, any age/looks or status. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 385595

JO 24yr old attractive blonde, own car/flirt, seeks genuine guy for meals out, cosy nights in and quality times together, 30-55yrs. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388951
JANE divorced lovely single mum, OHAC, loves socialising, puns, countryside, looking for male to love me. Age/looks/race unimportant. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388947

LYNDA very attractive attached female, own transport and willing to travel, seeking similar natured male for extra circular activities. Must be discreet. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 386653
JASMINE 36yrs, looking for lover friend and soul mate to share my life with. I'm attractive, loving, eyes, attractive, seeking close to again, for meals and green eye and single. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 388981

CAROL attractive blue eyed blonde, slim, size 10yrs, GSOH, great enter-eyes, brown hair, well healthy/trim, well travelled, feminine, smart, seeks male, 40-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 391013
AMANDA honest pretty single mum, 30, big brown eyes, attractive, seeking close to again, for meals and single dad for lots of out, nights in and more, tile and companionship. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 389737

JACKIE 32 attractive classy professional, blonde, brown hair, healthy/trim, well travelled, smart, seeks male, 40-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 199 8100 Box No: 390055

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TRIATHLON

Triathlon buzz set to continue in city

THE English National Triathlon Championships are being held in Emberton Country Park on Sunday.

There's a real buzz about the sport at the moment thanks to the double podium success of Great Britain's Brownlee brothers at the Olympics, and organisers are hoping to take advantage.

A new English champion will be crowned after a 1,500m open water swim in the park lake, a 40km bike consisting of one lap around undulating country roads and a 10km run consisting of three laps of the park.

Triathlon England's Duncan Hough said: "The race setting in Buckinghamshire is ideal, with the excellent facilities at Emberton Country Park combined with the open water swim taking place in the lake, it allows for a fantastic spectacle for some competitive racing."

There are still spots available to enter at www.triathlonengland.org.

ATHLETICS

Luckwell can't get into Olympic final

Olympian: Mervyn Luckwell



CITY javelin thrower Mervyn Luckwell missed out on the Olympic final after a best throw of 74.09m failed to see him break into the top 12 in qualifying.

The MK Athletic Club competitor managed the distance with his first throw but then registered two fouls as he finished 35th over all.

Luckwell has struggled with injuries of late and didn't look 100 per cent in the Olympic Stadium, although he had targeted a spot in the final.

Germany's Tino Haber claimed the last final berth with a best distance of 80.39m, which Luckwell has bettered this year.

He qualified for London 2012 with an Olympic 'A' standard throw of 82.15m in May, which was enough to win him the Loughborough Invitational.

His personal best is 83.52m which would have been the fourth best in the final, which was eventually won by Trinidad and Tobago's Keshorn Walcott.

Luckwell was the only British competitor in the javelin and can now look ahead to Rio 2016.

Meanwhile, there were gold medals for MK's Jackson Curtis and Kayleigh Presswell at the Jumps and Throws Fest in Birmingham, in the U20 men's javelin and U20 women's hammer.

Last week, the club picked up 18 golds at the Eastern Veteran's Championships at Sandy.

FOOTBALL

Kay happy with debut spot kick



Victory sealed: Ryan Lowe celebrates scoring the decisive penalty

FROM BACK PAGE

equaliser though, which was superbly struck and flew into the net from thirty yards.

Martin was right underneath the ball as it zipped into the net but was well beaten as it awkwardly turned in the air.

Both sides had chances to win during the 90 minutes and in extra time with Cheltenham's man advantage not noticeable.

The ten men won the shoot-out 5-3 thanks to Martin's save from Cheltenham sub Darryl Duffy, and successful kicks from Bowditch, Charlie MacDonald, Gary MacKenzie, Antony Kay and Ryan Lowe.

Robinson said: "We've played arguably one of the best teams in League Two with ten men. "Everyone who ended the game for us deserves tremendous credit."

One big plus for Dons was the performances of summer signings Lowe and Kay, who both looked like strong acquisitions on their debuts.

Lowe, a second half substitute, looked like he could be the source of goals Robinson is looking for as he made life difficult for the Cheltenham defence, coming close to scoring on more than one occasion.

Kay was introduced into the fray earlier than expected to replace Williams and was a strong presence in defence.

"I think Ryan Lowe has adhered himself to the fans almost immediately," Robinson said.

"He was almost a cult hero after 30 seconds of being on the pitch, his movement, his touch and awareness of what goes on is magnificent. "I really like Antony Kay, he's a proper man.

"For the last corner of the game, all I could hear was 'one big header' and he's the one who goes and heads the ball away."

Williams was left struggling with an ankle knock after he limped off.

"He's struggling," Robinson said. "It's quite a severe one. Right now it's almost double the size of what it should be so it's not looking good, but Antony Kay filled in fantastically well."

Kay himself said that he had no qualms about stepping up to take a penalty, just one day after joining the club from Huddersfield.

The centre back, who can also play in midfield, has penned a two year deal and signs as a free agent.

He said: "I normally take penalties if there's a shoot out and I'm always number four, I think I'm a bit superstitious."

"I took one in a play-off final at number four, and I'm always one of the players to put my hand up."

"I think I'm a better player at a centre half but I like to play midfield and score some goals, but as long as I'm in that starting 11 I'm not bothered where I play."



On the ball: Darren Potter



Marching orders: Stephen Gleeson is sent off

SPORTS SHORTS

CRICKET

Northamptonshire Cricket League Premier

ROB Keogh's century was not enough for Stony Stratford (195 all out) who were beaten by Northampton Saints CC (198/3) by seven wickets.

Keogh hit 112 but didn't find support from his team-mates. Stony are fifth in the table.

Cherwell Cricket League Division One

BLETCHLEY Town (133 all out) remain bottom of the table after a seven wicket defeat to Great and Little Tew (134/3) – James Sprittles top scoring with 28 for Town.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

NEWPORT Pagnell Town began their FA Cup adventure with a 6-1 win over Reading Town in the Extra Preliminary Round on Saturday.

Dom Lawless grabbed a hat-trick and Richard Armstrong, Daren Dykes and Keith Williams completed the scoring.

•CITY Sports FC are looking for new players for their U12 team, particularly midfielders and defenders but all positions welcome.

The team will be playing on Sunday mornings this season at Walnut Tree. Call Lee on 07530193300 or email CitySportsfc@live.co.uk for more details.

SWIMMING

THREE CMK Swim Club members competed at the Welsh Summer Nationals in Swansea – Christian and Lauren Revell and Sorcha Smith.

Christian (17), Lauren (14) and Sorcha (18) entered several events and put in some impressive swims against tough opposition, achieving a numbers of PBs along the way.

Sorcha picked up a silver medal in the 200m breaststroke as well as a bronze medal in the 100m breaststroke. Christian claimed a bronze in the 400m freestyle and also made finals for the most of his events.

Lauren made the 100m backstroke final and she finished 8th overall in the points table for the 14/15 age group.

Both Lauren and Christian gained long course personal best times.

SKIING

CITY skier Matt Thompson raced in the Indoor Grand Prix at SNO!Zone Milton Keynes, coming first in the U21 category in the slalom on both days.

The 19-year-old, who has been selected for the British Alpine FIS Europa Cup team, was also fastest overall in the giant slalom events on both days.

Working with new coach Finlay Mickel, who represented Britain in the Winter Olympics, he has been training in Tignes with other members of the British Team.

ROLLER DERBY

MILTON Keynes now has a men's roller derby team – the Quads of War. For more information e-mail scb_arty@hotmail.com.

The girls' team, the Concrete Cows, will face the Hell's Belles of Hertfordshire on Saturday.

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Season is all or nothing as Dons look up

BY DAN PALMER

dan.palmer@mk-news.co.uk

SATURDAY marks the start of the most important MK Dons league season to date.

Oldham Athletic are the visitors to stadiummk and manager Karl Robinson has admitted that this time it's 'all or nothing'.

The manager has succeeded in keeping his squad together this summer but that is highly unlikely to be the case if Dons suffer a third straight year of heartbreak and again fail to get to the Championship.

A number of players rejected chances to turn out at a higher level over the summer but with numerous contracts expiring in a year's time, anything other than promotion could see the team broken up.

Robinson too has been constantly linked with moves to other teams.

"It's all or nothing isn't it?" he told MK SPORT.

"I'm not going to leave anything at all to chance. I'm going to give everything I've got.

"My wife and my daughter know that for nine months of my life I'm not going to leave anything in the tank.

"It's started already, I've been to four games in the last four days.

"We're at the stage where we want to really achieve things. We've been so close yet so far."

Robinson believes that he has assembled the best squad of his tenure as he bids to make it third time lucky.

He said: "As a group I think it's as

strong as you are going to get. We've not got many again, but it's strong.

"There are more opportunities to rotate and more things we can do.

"I have so many different players I can bring in to change tactics.

"This is the week of the season that everybody gets excited for and I'm like everybody else."

Oldham were beaten 4-2 by Sheffield Wednesday in the Capital One Cup on Monday, but a watching Robinson, who has already decided his starting team, is expecting a difficult game from the Latics.

"I thought Oldham were fantastic," he said.

"They play football, they've got good players. There's a lot about them, they press, they work hard.

"Oldham are a typical Paul Dickov team and are fantastically organised.

"They show great endeavour and are a very difficult challenge.

"You just don't know what's going to happen on opening day.

"I've seen some of the strangest results on the football calendar happen in the first game. It'll be no different on Saturday."

Robinson praised the club's fans who attended the cup victory over Cheltenham.

He said: "They inspired us, they kept us going. Ian Wright said 'how good are our fans?'"

"Let's stick together this year. Success is only galvanised by a group of people, not just individuals. We hope to get many people together to push for the same ultimate goal."



Safe hands: David Martin saves from Darryl Duffy to help Dons through against Cheltenham. They will find out their second round opponents today.

Picture: Andy Handley

Appeal fails as penalties victory comes at a cost

KARL Robinson was continually left frustrated by referees last season and his first cause for complaint this time around came after just 40 minutes.

Stephen Gleeson was shown a straight red card for a challenge on Cheltenham's Sam Deering by referee Steven Rushton, much to the manager's disbelief.

This was not in the desired script for the Capital One Cup first round tie but the club's appeal to the FA failed and the Irish midfielder will now miss the first three games of the season.

Dons are also sweating over the fitness of Shaun Williams who hobbled out of the penalties victory, which followed a 1-1 draw, and is a doubt for Saturday's league opener at home to Oldham.

"We lost Stephen Gleeson to a very good tackle," Robinson said.

"I think we all know that it was a

very good tackle.

"He did not take his body off the floor, he did not have his studs showing and he flicked the ball off the player."

Deering had earlier been booked for diving after he went down softly in the box after limited contact with Williams.

Robinson said: "The disappointing thing for me is that the same player that went crying on the floor was within 30 seconds up running around, the same playing who was booked for diving.

"I thought the referee conducted himself well but it's a difficult one to accept.

"When he made it I said to the fourth official that it wasn't even a free-kick, and the next thing you see the red card.

"You can imagine the look on my face."

In a strange way the sending off

may be seen as a blessing as it seemed to spur Dons into life.

Cheltenham were much the better leading up to that point and the League Two club would have been disappointed not to be in front after putting David Martin's goal under increased strain.

Things changed when Dons were reduced to ten though with the visitors putting together their best spell of the half shortly before the break.

It culminated with Dean Bowditch finishing calmly past Scott Brown after he had been teed up by the impressive Jay O'Shea.

Dons continued to look stronger with ten than they did with 11, as the Robins found them tough to break down in an increasingly open second half.

There was nothing Martin could have done about Kaid Mohamed's

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